85-1961 (1)

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NO. _____

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM 1985

EUGENE LESLIE,

Petitioner

VERSUS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Respondent

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE
UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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39 P

QUESTION PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

Whether:

- when a federal prosecutor uses each and every one of his peremptory challenges to strike black jurors from a petit jury sitting in judgment on a black defendant, and
- thereby eliminates all blacks from the jury,

a federal district court has the authority and obligation under the supervisory power to inquire into the prosecutor's reasons for exercising his challenges in an apparently racially motivated way, and if the district court on inquiry finds impermissible racial motivation, to take steps to correct the abuse.

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FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

Eugene Leslie, by his counsel Robert Glass, and co-counsel, Lolis Edward Elie, petitions for a writ of certiorari to review the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit affirming his judgment of conviction.

OPINIONS BELOW

The Fifth Circuit panel opinion, Judge Garwood dissenting, conditionally reversed petitioner's conviction. It is reported at

759 F.2d 366 (5th Cir. 1985), and reprinted as Appendix A. The en banc opinion of the Fifth Circuit, Judges Williams, Brown Rubin, Tate and Johnson dissenting, reversed the panel and affirmed petitioner's conviction. It is reported at 783 F.2d 541 (5th Cir. 1986), and is reprinted as Appendix B.

RULES AND STATUTES IMPLICATED

The rules and statutes implicated in petitioner's case, which are reprinted in the separately presented Appendix, are as follows:

- Rule 2, F.R.Cr.P. (Appendix C).
- Rule 24, F.R.Cr.P. (Appendix D).
- 28 U.S.C. §1861, et seq. (Federal Jury Selection and Services Act of 1968)(Appendix E).

JURISDICTION

The en banc decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit is dated February 20, 1986. This petition is timely, coming within 60 days of the en banc decision. Jurisdiction is present under 28 U.S.C. §1254(1).

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Petitioner Eugene Leslie is a prominent fight promoter and trainer in the City of New Orleans; he is black. He was indicted and convicted in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana for conspiracy to distribute and possession with intent to distribute cocaine, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§846 and 841(a)(1).

During jury selection the Assistant United States Attorney exercised each and every one of the six peremptory challenges permitted to him by Rule 24(b), F.R.Cr.P., against black veniremen. These six black

veniremen were the only blacks on the panel available for selection. Of the three veniremen from whom the alternate was to be selected, only one was black; the assistant exercised his single peremptory against the one black venireman.

Petitioner immediately moved for a mistrial, arguing that the pattern of the prosecutor's challenges indicated that they were racially motivated. Petitioner urged the trial court to invoke its supervisory power over the conduct of federal trials to grant his motion for mistrial. The prosecutor maintained that his actions were not racially motivated and that he was under no obligation to articulate his reasons for striking those particular jurors. He nevertheless offered to give the court an in camera explanation. The district court, however, declined to hear the prosecutor's reasons in camera or otherwise, stating that a prosecutor need not offer any explanation

for the manner in which he exercises his peremptory challenges.

On appeal petitioner reasserted his claim that a federal district court has the supervisory power to inquire into a prosecutor's motives for exercising peremptory challenges when on its face the pattern of strikes appears to be racially motivated. The original panel sustained that claim. It held that the trial court was obliged to exercise its inherent supervisory power to make inquiry into the prosecutor's motives for exercising his challenges; on remand, if the district court were to find that the prosecutor "exercised his peremptory challenges for impermissible, racially discriminatory reasons," a new trial would be ordered. On en banc rehearing, however, the Fifth Circuit reversed the panel decision and held that, absent a showing of systematic exclusion of blacks, it is a misuse of the supervisory

power to inquire into a prosecutor's reasons for peremptorily challenging veniremen.

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

The question raised on these facts is whether federal judges have the power and obligation to mitigate the extreme result achieved by the prosecutor in this case in his efforts to convict a black man. The imminent decision in Batson v. Kentucky, S.Ct. No. 84-6263 (argued 12/12/85) will not resolve the supervisory question because this is a federal criminal case, not a state

criminal case.[1] In federal criminal cases, this Court's obligation is to assure not simply that trials are marginally constitutional (the standard for state cases), but that federal trials are truly fair and just, and as well appear to be fair and just. The Court's responsibility for racial fairness and racial justice in the federal system is more primary, compelling and organic than its general superintendence over the 50 states through the Fourteenth Amendment. If Batson is decided adversely to the state defendant's

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[1] Batson v. Kentucky, of course, involves only constitutional concerns and raises no federal supervisory power question. Batson therefore cannot control the outcome here. Because the Batson decision has not yet issued, however, petitioner cannot draw on the Court's analysis in that case insofar as it might bear on the arguments for or against application of the supervisory power. Petitioner is prepared to supplement his petition when Batson is decided, should the Court deem that course helpful or appropriate.

Petitioner notes, nonetheless, that he did reserve the constitutional claims raised in Batson. Should Batson be decided favorably to the state defendant, reversal of petitioner's conviction on constitutional grounds would necessarily follow.

constitutional claims, racial fairness in the federal system is still at risk and should not be left in unresolved limbo for the foreseeable future. The stakes are too great.

The en banc opinion of the Fifth Circuit held that as regards peremptory strikes the supervisory authority was no broader and extended no further than the constitutional principle applicable in both state and federal courts and expressed 21 years ago in Swain v. Alabama, 380 U.S. 202 (1965). This alleged analytical unity of the supervisory and constitutional powers derived from the appellate court's misguided application of and syllogistic adherence to two recently decided supervisory cases, United States v. Hasting, 461 U.S. 499 (1983) and United States v. Payner, 447 U.S. 727 (1980). As a consequence of this reasoning, the Fifth Circuit held that, absent a showing of systematic racial exclusion, the district court had no authority whatsoever to effect

any sort of judicial superintendence over a prosecutor's prima facie utilization of all of his peremptory challenges to eliminate all blacks from a jury, even in a case in which some cross-sectional input of the minority race affected both the appearance and the probable substance of jury fairness. Both the reasoning and the result were simply wrong, and the damage done to racial fairness and perceived justice immeasureable.

The supervisory power of federal courts to control their own proceedings has a long and distinguished history. It was first articulated as a basis for decision in McNabb v. United States, 318 U.S. 332 (1943). There, Justice Frankfurter wrote:

> Judicial supervision of the administration of criminal justice in the federal courts implies the duty of establishing and maintaining civilized standards of procedure and evidence. Such standards are not satisfied merely by observance of those minimal historic safeguards for securing trial by reason, which are summarized as "due process of law" and below which we reach what is

> really trial by force.... Considerations of large policy in making the necessary accommodations in our federal system are wholly irrelevant to the formulation and application of proper standards for the enforcement of the federal criminal law in the federal courts.

Id. at 340-341.

This Court has called upon its supervisory power in numerous cases. See, e.g., Jencks v. United States, 353 U.S. 657 (1975); Mesarosh v. United States, 352 U.S. 1 (1956); Ballard v. United States, 329 U.S. 187 (1946); and Thiel v. Southern Pacific Co., 328 U.S. 212 (1946). The supervisory power has in fact been invoked in such a wide range of circumstances that it has been said that "the sole common denominator of its usage is a desire to maintain and develop standards of fair play in the federal courts more exacting than the minimum requirements of due process." Note, The Judge-Made Supervisory Power of the Federal Courts, 53 Geo. L. Rev. 1050 (1965).

Nowhere is the proper compass of the supervisory power more compellingly illustrated than in the contrasting decisions in Marshall v. United States, 360 U.S. 310 (1959) and Murphy v. Florida, 421 U.S. 794 (1975). In both cases jurors had been exposed to newspaper stories reporting that the defendant, who did not testify, had been convicted previously of serious offenses; in both cases the exposed jurors swore to the satisfaction of the judge that they would not be influenced by the newspaper articles and would decide the case only on the evidence. In Marshall, the Court reversed the federal defendant's conviction; in Murphy, the Court affirmed the state defendant's conviction. The only distinction was the differing roles played by the federal courts in federal and state adjudications. This Court reversed Marshall's conviction "'[i]n the exercise of [its] supervisory power to formulate and apply proper standards for enforcement of the

criminal law in the federal courts,' and not as a matter of constitutional compulsion.... We cannot agree that Marshall has any application beyond the federal courts." Murphy, supra, 421 U.S. at 797-798.

A similar pair of contrasting jury fairness cases is Aldridge v. United States, 283 U.S. 308 (1931) and Ristaino v. Ross, 424 U.S. 589 (1976). In both cases the black defendant was accused of killing a white police officer. In both cases the defendant requested, but was refused, voir dire examination directed to racial prejudice. This Court reversed the conviction of the federal defendant in Aldridge; it affirmed the conviction of the state defendant in Ristaino. The distinction again was the difference between constitutional and supervisory superintendence:

> Although we hold that voir dire questioning directed to racial prejudice was not constitutionally required, the wiser course generally is to propound appropriate questions

> designed to identify racial prejudice if requested by the defendant. **Under our supervisory power we would have required as much of a federal court faced with the circumstances here.**
>
> Ristaino, 424 U.S. at 597, n. 9.

That Swain held racist peremptory challenges constitutional is thus plainly no answer to the question whether a federal court should attempt to effect some moderating influence on the practice by resort to its authority[2] in "the formulation and application of proper standards for the

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[2]See Cuyler v. Sullivan, 446 U.S. 335 (1980) where this Court held, with regard to possible conflicts of interest by counsel in the representation of multiple defendants, that (446 U.S. at 346) --

> nothing in our precedents suggests that the Sixth Amendment requires state courts themselves to initiate inquiries into the propriety of multiple representation in every case;

while noting approvingly (446 U.S. at 335, n. 10) that --

> several [federal] Courts of Appeals already invoke their **supervisory power** to require similar inquiries.

enforcement of the federal criminal law in the federal courts." McNabb, supra. The values underlying equal protection and cross-sectional representation of juries are at war with racially motivated challenges. The supervisory power can and should be applied to inhibit invidious discrimination, for to do so serves the constitutional principles of equal protection and cross-sectional representation, even if the constitutional principles themselves and by their own force do not require such action.

There are two parts to the question whether a court should exercise its supervisory authority where prosecutors, by racist utilization of peremptory challenges, undermine our fundamental commitment to racial fairness and cross-sectional values: (a) whether there is a recognizable evil which is insulated (and thereby encouraged) by the tradition of exercising peremptories without judicial inquiry or review, and therefore

warrants exposure to daylight; and (b) whether there is a reasonable and practical way to moderate that evil without destroying the salutary and important uses of the peremptory.

A. Racist Utilization of Peremptory Challenges is Unquestionably Pernicious and Evil in Federal Criminal Trials.

The evil is there, unmistakable and palpable.[3] The fact that, in the 20 years following Swain, the racial use of peremptories continues to raise its ugly head with frequency in federal courts attests to the

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> Discrimination on the basis of race, odious in all aspects, is especially pernicious in the administration of justice. Selection of members of a... jury because they are of one race and not another destroys the appearance of justice and thereby casts doubt on the judicial process. The exclusion of Negroes, or any other gruop otherwise qualified to serve, impairs the confidence of the public in the administration of justice.
>
> Rose v. Mitchell, 443 U.S. 545, 555-556 (1979).

persistence of the problem. If a particular federal prosecutor harbors an unremitting and racist hostility towards blacks, and in the service of his racism, systematically exercises his peremptory strikes against blacks whenever it is practicable to do so, would this Court hesitate to condemn the practice -- if only it were revealed? If a federal prosecutor believes that all blacks are uneducated and stupid, and for that reason uses each and every one of his challenges to strike each and every black on a particular panel, would this court blink for a hesitant second before saying that the federal system should not tolerate such conduct in its prosecutors -- if it knew about it? If a federal prosecutor were so narrow and prejudiced as to believe that all blacks were addicts or drug users, could not be trusted to follow the law in drug prosecutions, and so should be struck whenever possible, would not this Court want to act to

stop the prosecutor -- if he were found out? Even if the federal prosecutor who hated blacks struck them wherever and whenever he could for the rational reason that his hatred could not be masked from black jurors (thus diminishing his credibility), would this Court encourage him to persist in his practice -- if the Court could discover the truth about him and deter him?

Prosecutors like those described above, who choose juries in those ways, are perpetuating an evil that no theoretically legitimate use of the peremptory challege could justify. Prosecutors like this exist, in greater or lesser degree, throughout the federal districts.[4] Yet, under the Fifth Circuit's ruling, such prosecutors will never be revealed, and their practices will not be deterred even minimally by the embarassment

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[4]See cases cited in McCray v. Abrams, 750 F.2d 113, 1120 at n. 2 (2nd Cir. 1984), cert. pending, S.Ct. No. 84-1426.

that the mere demand for explanation would necessarily cause.

B. The State Experience Since Swain Demonstrates that there is a Reasonable and Practical Way to Minimize the Evil of Racist Strikes by a Federal Prosecutor.

There simply exists no reason whatsoever to deny the federal courts the supervisory power to make a minimal inquiry of prosecutors whose strikes raise the racist spectre. Even authors who advocate only limited use of the power accept the propriety of its application to situations where the reliability and integrity of the judicial process is brought into question. See, e.g., Beale, Reconsidering Supervisory Power in Criminal Cases: Constitutional and Statutory Limits on the Authority of the Federal Courts, 84 Colum. L. Rev. 1433, 1520 (1984).

It is clear, moreover, that a limited modification of the peremptory practices of prosecutors is feasible. The experience in

California following People v. Wheeler, 22 Cal.3d 258, 148 Cal.Rptr. 890, 583 P.2d 748 (1978)[5] and in Massachussetts following Commonwealth v. Soares, 377 Mass. 461, 387 N.E.2d 499, cert. den., 444 U.S. 881,[6] and the decisions by Florida[7] and New Jersey[8] to follow suit, demonstrate not

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[5]People v. Hall, 197 Cal.Rptr. 71, 35 Cal.3d 1161, 672 P.2d 854 (1983); People v. Allen, 152 Cal.Rptr. 454, 23 Cal.3d 286, 590 P.2d 30 (1979); People v. Harvey, 208 Cal.Rptr. 910 (1984); People v. Alexander, 205 Cal.Rptr. 387 (1984); People v. Walker, 205 Cal.Rptr. 278 (1984); People v. Clay, 153 Cal.App.3d 433, 200 Cal.Rptr. 269 (1984); People v. Fuller, 136 Cal.App.3d 403, 186 Cal.Rptr. 283 (1982); People v. Coleman, 174 Cal.Rptr. 756 (1982); People v. Lucero, 160 Cal.Rptr. 27 (1979).

[6]Commonwealth v. Benbow, 16 Mass.App. 970, 452 N.E.2d 1164 (1983); Commonwealth v. DiMatteo, 12 Mass.App. 547, 427 N.E.2d 754 (1981); Commonwealth v. Brown, 11 Mass.App. 228, 416 N.E.2d 218 (1981); Commonwealth v. Kelly, 10 Mass.App. 847, 406 N.E.2d 1327 (1980).

[7]State v. Neil, 457 So.2d 481 (S.Ct. Fla. 1984).

[8]State v. Gilmore, 489 A.2d 1175 (N.J. Super. Ct. 1985); see also, the New Mexico decision, State v. Crespin, 94 N.M. 486, 612 P.2d 716 (1980), and the Second Circuit decision, McCray v. Abrams, 750 F.2d 1113 (2nd Cir. 1984)(petition for certiorari pending).

only that it is possible to devise workable rules for examining the prima facie racial use of peremptories but that it is possible to do so without destroying the function and efficacy of peremptories in the totality of jury selection. Indeed, since Swain was decided in 1965, this Court has had the benefit of "the various States...serv[ing] as laboratories" for refinement of the principle of limited intervention in extreme, racially skewed jury situations. McCray v. New York, 461 U.S. 961 (1983)(concurrence of Justice Stevens on denial of certiorari). Where in 1965 even a limited inquiry, like that designed by the Fifth Circuit panel here, might be said to have "entail[ed] a radical change in the operation of the challenge," Swain, 380 U.S. at 222-223, this is no longer so. The peremptoriness of the challenge is no longer considered absolute throughout the land, nor is the desirability for absolute deference any longer clear.

C. The Fifth Circuit Decision Relies on Distinguishable Supervisory Power Decisions, and Improperly Defers to Inapplicable Rules and Legislation.

In holding the federal courts impotent to unveil racist practices and so to create the factual predicate for even limited remedial action, the Fifth Circuit relied heavily on two recent supervisory power cases, United States v. Hasting, 461 U.S. 499 (1983) and United States v. Payner, 447 U.S. 727 (1980). Payner and Hasting, however, spoke to a very different application of the supervisory power than that urged here. In those cases the appellate courts had taken it upon themselves to fashion additional supervisory remedies for constitutional violations (which they found in those cases to be particularly egregious and extreme), even though this Court had already placed limits upon the remedies to be available for dealing with violations of those same constitutional

provisions. The point here, however, is not additional remedies for constitutional violations. The point is that even though there may be no constitutional violation at all, the supervisory power may still provide a remedy for what is unfair but not unconstitutional. Such is the teaching of the contrasting Murphy-Marshall and Ristaino-Aldridge decisions, supra, text at 21-24.

In Payner the district court disregarded the exclusionary rule's requirement of standing to complain and refused to admit evidence which had been seized in deliberate violation of a third party's Fourth Amendment rights. In Hasting the court of appeal found that the prosecutor's closing argument constituted an impermissible comment on the defendant's exercise of his Fifth Amendment privilege against self-incrimination and reversed the defendant's conviction without regard for the harmless error rule. In reversing both Payner and Hasting, this Court

held that the lower appellate courts had improperly applied their supervisory power by disregarding limits on remedies which the Court, with careful consideration of the competing interests, had already decreed were adequate over the entire spectrum of Fourth and Fifth Amendment violations. The particular forms of remedies for constitutional violations were not themselves of constitutional origin or compulsion. Having designed adequate remedies and thus having drawn already the balance between greater and lesser possible remedies, the supervisory approach to the violations, no matter how offensive the violations were, was deemed neither necessary nor appropriate.

Not so here. Under the hegemony of Swain, there is no constitutional remedy for racist behavior by a prosecutor in striking black jurors in the particular case. The prohibitions imposed by Payner and Hasting on expanding remedies for constitu-

tional violations under the supervisory power simply do not apply to situations were there are no preexisting constitutional violations. The Fifth Circuit's decision fails to heed this distinction and thereby obscures the import of the Court's holdings in Payner and Hasting; consequently, that court has applied a plainly incorrect analytical framework to deny the availability of the supervisory power in the racial peremptory context.

Moreover, the Fifth Circuit improperly found that its hand had been stayed in the area of peremptory challenges by reason of Rule 24(b), F.R.Cr.P., and the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968, as amended, 28 U.S.C. §1861, et seq. The rule and the statute require no deference because neither of these enactments even remotely instructs a federal court whether or not it may inquire into a prosecutor's motives for striking all of the blacks from a jury panel. The Fifth Circuit's reliance on Palermo v.

United States, 360 U.S. 343 (1959)[9] therefore, is totally misplaced.

Rule 24(b) speaks only to the number of peremptory challenges. It does not go further and define what is meant by "peremptory," whether peremptories might not be subject to limited review and supervision by the court, nor whether further there might not be some point beyond which the exercise of peremptories passes beyond arbitrary into intolerable. The fact is that Congress has never legislatively defined what a peremptory challege in the federal system is.

The conclusion that Rule 24(b) has no substantive preemptive content is fortified by reference to subsection (a) of Rule 24. Rule 24(a) specifies wno may conduct voir dire, and if the judge chooses to do so, how supplemental questions by the parties are to

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[9] "The power of this Court to prescribe rules of procedure and evidence for the federal courts exists only in the absence of a relevant act of Congress." 360 U.S. at 353, n. 11.

be asked to the jurors. Under the Fifth Circuit's logic, Congress has "legislated" in the area of voir dire just as it has "legislated" in the area of peremptory strikes; accordingly, the supervisory power could not be invoked in either circumstance. This, however, is clearly not so because the supervisory power of this Court has in fact been applied to require voir dire questions of a particular sort. Aldridge v. United States, 282 U.S. 308 (1931)(question on racial prejudice required under supervisory authority, though not under the constitution).[10]

The Fifth Circuit's reliance on the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968 is similarly misplaced. The primary function of that enactment was to prevent discrimination in the panel; thus, the Act

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[10]The Court more recently reaffirmed this requirement in federal criminal trials in Ristaino v. Ross, 424 U.S. 589, 597, n. 9 (1976).

focuses on the means for compiling jury lists and on juror qualifications, and provides an "exclusive" mechanism for challege which shuts down once "voir dire examination begins." 28 U.S.C. §1867(a). Peremptory challenges and challenges for cause are mentioned only incidentally, and are reaffirmed as operating outside of the Act as "provided by law."[11] In other words, the Act says nothing at all substantive about the law, the practice or the outer limits of the peremptory challenge.

Insulating prima face racial strikes from court superintendence promotes both the appearance of unfairness and its fact. The government's peremptory strikes are provided for in Rule 24, F.R.Cr.P., and neither their

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[11]Subsections (3) and (4) of the proviso in 18 U.S.C. §1866(c) specify "[t]hat any persons summoned for jury service may be... (3) excluded upon peremptory challege as provided by law, or (4) excluded pursuant to the procedure specified by law upon a challenge by a party for good cause shown...."

origin nor their sanctity are constitutionally derived. See Swain, 380 U.S. at 211-217. The government's strikes, therefore, should be governed by Rule 2 of the same Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure. Rule 2 provides in relevant part that the rules "shall be construed to secure...fairness in administration" and "are intended for the just determination of every criminal proceeding." This is nothing if not a statement of supervisory power and authority. Here, then, is an explicit source for the supervisory power and authority of the federal courts to moderate the invidious, perniciously evil use of peremptory challenges by government counsel in racially despicable and condemnable ways.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated, petitioner respectfully petitions this Court to grant a writ of certiorari to review the decision of

the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Robert Glass, a member of the bar of this Court, hereby certify that copies of this petition for certiorari have been served on respondent, United States of America, by mailing three copies thereof, first class postage prepaid, to the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and three copies to John Volz, Esq., U.S. Attorney, 500 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130, this ____ day of April, 1986.

_____

ROBERT GLASS

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APPENDIX

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APPENDIX A

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

NO. 83-3719

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee

VERSUS

EUGENE LESLIE,

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

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(April 10, 1985)

Before BROWN, WILLIAMS and GARWOOD, Circuit Judges.

JERRE S. WILLIAMS, Circuit Judge:

Eugene Leslie challenges his drug conviction on three grounds: the prosecutor improperly used all of his peremptory challenges against black veniremen, the plea agreement letters between the government and

various government witnesses were incomplete and improperly vouched for the credibility of those witnesses, and Leslie was denied the opportunity to impeach the testimony of a government witness. We find merit in Leslie's first claim, and we reverse and remand on that claim. In all other respects, we affirm.

I.

Leslie, a black man, was indicted, tried, and found guilty of conspiring to distribute narcotics in violation of 21 U.S.C. §846 (1982), and of possessing narcotics with the intent to distribute them in violation of 21 U.S.C. §841(a)(1) (1982). After the voir dire and after the district court excused veniremen for cause, the United States Attorney exercised each of his six peremptory challenges permitted by Fed. R. Crim. P. 24(b) against black veniremen. These six black veniremen were the only

blacks on Leslie's jury panel of thirty-six. The prosecutor also used his sole peremptory challege permitted by Fed. R. Crim. P. 24(c) to excuse the only black person on the panel of alternates. Immediately after both parties exercised their peremptory challenges, Leslie moved for a mistrial and argued that the pattern in which the prosecutor employed his peremptories demonstrated that the prosecutor's conduct was racially motivated. Leslie urged the district court to invoke its discretionary authority over the conduct of the trial to grant his motion. The prosecutor stated that he did not exercise his peremptory challenges for racial reasons, and he offered to explain, in camera, his reasons for striking the black veniremen. The district court denied Leslie's motion for a mistrial, stating that a prosecutor need not offer any explanation for the manner in which he

exercises his peremptory challenges. As a result, Leslie was tried before and convicted by an all-white jury.

Leslie was indicted with at least six other people: Fernando Giron, Thomas Gray, Claude Griffin (Griffin), and Griffin's wife, son, and daughter. Gray and Griffin pled guilty and agreed to testify for the government in the case against Leslie and Giron, who were tried together. In connection with their plea arrangements with the government, Gray and Griffin executed standard plea agreement letters that the government provided. These plea agreement letters were admitted into evidence over Leslie's objection.

Consistent with their plea agreements, Gray and Griffin testified against Leslie and Giron at the trial. On the second day of the trial, after Gray, Griffin, and others had given devastating testimony against Giron, Giron agreed to plead guilty. The case

against Leslie proceeded. The day after Giron had agreed to plead guilty, the government called Giron to testify against Leslie. In his direct testimony, Giron indicated that he occasionally had delivered cocaine to and had received payments from Leslie. In Leslie's vigorous cross-examination, Leslie sought to establish that Giron was biased against Leslie and had agreed to plead guilty and testify against Leslie only to curry favor with the prosecutor and the sentencing judge. Specifically, Leslie sought to have Giron concede that the government would not accept Giron's guilty plea unless Giron agreed to testify against Leslie. Giron made no such concession and testified that at the time the agreement was consummated he did not know he would be called as a government witness in Leslie's case.

Leslie then sought to impeach Giron's testimony by calling Giron's attorney, James

Moriarty, as a witness. The court conducted a hearing outside the jury's presence and asked Moriarty a series of questions concerning the plea agreement. Moriarty testified that the two critical aspects of the plea agreement were that Giron would testify in the case against Leslie and that Giron would plead guilty to one count of his two-count indictment. He also testified that he had specifically asked Giron: "Are you [Giron] willing to testify in this case against Leslie?" and that Giron's response was "Yes." Finally, Moriarty testified that he believed his client understood all aspects of the plea agreement. The district court did not allow Leslie to call Moriarty as a witness at trial, in part, because it did not find Giron's and Moriarty's testimony to be in substantial conflict.

In this appeal Leslie raises three claims. Initially, he argues that we should

invoke our supervisory authority to ensure that federal prosecutors do not employ peremptory challenges to strike only black veniremen. Second, he claims that the district court improperly admitted the plea agreement letters into evidence because the letters were both under- and over-inclusive and because they improperly bolstered the credibility of the government witnesses. Third, he asserts that the district court erroneously denied him the opportunity to impeach Giron's testimony and demonstrate Giron's bias by calling Moriarty as a witness. We address each contention in turn.

II.

1. THE SUPERVISORY POWER CLAIM

Racial discrimination in the selection of grand and petit jurors is a disturbingly familiar and recurring problem in our criminal justice system. The Supreme Court has stated that the systematic exclusion of

persons based upon the persons' race from the grand jury pool, the petit jury pool, or the petit jury through the prosecutor's use of peremptory challenges violates a defendant's equal protection rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth Amendment. See Swain v. Alabama, 380 U.S. 202 (1965)(petit jury--peremptory challenges); Strauder v. West Virginia, 100 U.S. 303 (1880)(grand and petit jury pools). In this case, Leslie concedes that he cannot satisfy the literal requirements of Swain by demonstrating that federal prosecutors in New Orleans systematically employed peremptory challenges to exclude blacks from petit juries in multiple cases over a period of time. He nevertheless argues that since this case, unlike Swain, involves a federal prosecution, this Court should use its supervisory authority over federal district courts and federal prosecutors to correct practices compromising the integrity of the judicial

process and prevent prosecutors from striking veniremen solely because of the veniremen's race. He argues that the exclusion of blacks from the petit jury in his case undermines public confident in the judicial system, impinges upon judicial integrity, and is manifestly unfair.

A. The Supreme Court's Exercise of Its Supervisory Power

The so-called supervisory power doctrine was articulated formally over four decades ago in McNabb v. United States, 318 U.S. 332 (1943),[1] and has been interpreted

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[1]Recent cases have indicated that the doctrine existed long before McNabb was announced. See Rosales-Lopez v. United States, 451 U.S. 182, 192 (1981)(describing Aldridge v. United States, 283 U.S. 308 (1931), as resting upon supervisory power grounds); Ristaino v. Ross, 424 U.S. 589, 598 n. 10 (1976)(same).

to permit federal courts[2] to formulate procedural rules not specifically required by the Constitution or federal statutes. United States v. Hasting, 461 U.S. 499, 505 (1983).

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[2]In McNabb, the Supreme Court referred to its supervisory authority but did not indicate whether similar authority existed in the lower federal courts. 318 U.S. at 340. Subsequent Supreme Court cases, however, removed any doubt that the lower federal courts possess supervisory authority concomitant with that possessed by the Court. See United States v. Hastings, 461 U.S. 499, 505 (1983) ("[I]n the exercise of supervisory powers, federal courts may...formulate procedural rules not specifically required by the Constitution or the Congress."; United States v. Payner, 447 U.S. 727, 735 & n. 7 (1980)(referring to the use of supervisory power by the "federal courts"); Donelly v. DeChristoforo, 416 U.S. 637, 648 n. 23 (1974)(federal appellate courts may redress prosecutorial misconduct through the proper exercise of their supervisory power); Cupp v. Naughten, 414 U.S. 141, 146 (1973)(federal "appellate courts" may exercise supervisory authority over district courts to cure errors not amounting to constitutional violations); Bartone v. United States, 375 U.S. 52, 54 (1963)(Supreme Court and courts of appeals possess supervisory power); LaBuy v. Howes Leather Co., 352 U.S. 249, 259 (1957)("We believe that supervisory control of the District Courts by the Courts of Appeals is necessary to proper judicial administration in the federal system.").

McNabb involved a prosecution for the murder of a federal agent. A failure by the arresting officers to follow proper detention and interrogation procedures led the Court to reverse the convictions. The Supreme Court rested its decision upon its supervisory power over the lower federal courts. Initially, the Court recognized that:

> while the power of [the] Court to undo convictions in state courts is limited to the enforcement of those "fundamental principles of liberty and justice"...which are secured by the Fourteenth Amendment, the scope of [the Court's] reviewing power over convictions brought...from the federal courts is not confined to ascertainment of Constitutional validity.

Id. at 340.[3] "Judicial supervision of the administration of criminal justice in the federal courts", the Court reasoned, "implies

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[3]Following McNabb, the Supreme Court repeatedly held that its supervisory authority extended to neither state officials nor state judicial proceedings. See Ristaino v. Ross, 424 U.S. 589, 597 n. 9 (1976); Donnelly v. DeChristoforo, 416 U.S. 637, 642 (1974); Cupp v. Naughten, 414 U.S. 141, 146 (1973).

the duty of establishing and maintaining civilized standards of procedure and evidence. Such standards are not satisfied merely by observance of those minimal historic safeguards for securing trial by reason which are summarized as 'due process of law' and below which we reach what is really trial by force." Id. In reversing the defendant's convictions, the Court announced the duty of courts "as agencies of justice and custodians of liberty" to preserve the integrity of the judicial process and guard against practices employed in cases such as McNabb. Id. at 347.

Subsequent to McNabb, the Supreme Court has repeatedly exercised its supervisory power over lower federal courts in a wide variety of cases to reverse a conviction which was supported by false evidence, Mesarosh v. United States, 352 U.S. 1, 14 (1956); Communist Party of the United States

v. Subversive Activities Control Board, 351 U.S. 115, 125 (1956), to curtail improper practices by federal attorneys, United States v. Hale, 422 U.S. 171, 180 & n. 7 (1975); Grunewald v. United States, 353 U.S. 391, 422 & 424 (1957); Jencks v. United States, 353 U.S. 657, 668 & 672 (1957); Roviaro v. United States, 353 U.S. 53, 60 (1957), to suppress evidence government agents gained through misconduct, Mallory v. United States, 354 U.S. 449, 453 & 455 (1957); Rea v. United States, 350 U.S. 214, 217 (1956); Upshaw v. United States, 335 U.S. 410, 412 & 414 n. 2 (1948), to preserve a criminal contemner's right to a jury trial, Cheff v. Schnackenberg, 384 U.S. 373, 380 (1966), or to protect the defendant from an overzealous district court judge, Offutt v. United States, 348 U.S. 11, 13 (1954).

In cases relevant to the case before us, the Supreme Court has invoked the super-

visory power doctrine to protect the integrity of the juries. Long before the Supreme Court decided Taylor v. Louisiana, 419 U.S. 522, 529 & 538 (1975), which held that the Sixth Amendment precluded the exclusion of members of distinctive groups of the community from the venires from which the juries are drawn, the Court applied the supervisory power doctrine in both civil and criminal cases to prevent the systematic exclusion from jury service of members of distinctive groups of the community. In Thiel v. Southern Pacific Co., 328 U.S. 217 (1946), a diversity case, the jury commissioner intentionally excluded from the petit jury lists all persons earning a daily wage. At trial, the plaintiff moved to strike the jury panel. The district court denied the motion, and the Ninth Circuit affirmed. Citing McNabb, the Court invoked its supervisory authority and reversed,

reasoning that "[j]ury competence is an individual matter rather than a group or class matter...[and to] disregard [that fact]... open[s] the door to class distinctions and discriminations which are abhorrent to the democratic ideals of trial by jury." Id. at 220. The Court ultimately concluded that the "blanket exclusion of all daily wage earners...must be counted among those tendencies which undermine and weaken the institution of jury trials." Id. at 224. Later that year the Court decided Ballard v. United States, 329 U.S. 187 (1946). Ballard involved the exclusion of women from the grand and petit jury lists in the federal courts in California. The Court denounced the practice of excluding women from jury service and found that the practice "deprive[d] the jury system of the broad base it was designed by Congress to have in our democratic society", and operated "'to

destroy the basic democracy and classlessness of jury personnel.'" Id. at 195. Again the Court relied upon McNabb and employed the supervisory power doctrine to reverse the defendant's conviction.

Thiel and Ballard are important for two reasons. First, they illustrate the applicability and scope of the supervisory power doctrine. More important, however, they emphasize the unifying premise in all of the supervisory power cases--that although the doctrine operates to vindicate a defendant's rights in an individual case, it is designed and invoked primarily to preserve the integrity of the judicial system.

B. The Federal Prosecutor's Duty in the Federal Criminal Justice System

Conceptually related to the purposes for which the supervisory doctrine was created is the federal prosecutor's obligation to serve the cause of justice in our

criminal justice system. Berger v. United States, 295 U.S. 78 (1935), is the critical case establishing the prosecutor's duty to ensure that justice be done as a higher priority than obtaining a conviction. The defendant in Berger claimed that the prosecutor's conduct at trial overstepped the bounds of propriety and fairness and entitled him to a new trial. The Supreme Court agreed, and in the often quoted passage explained the nature of the prosecutor's duty and the values the duty is designed to effect:

> The United States Attorney is a representative not of an ordinary party to the controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done. As such, he is in a peculiar and very definite sense the servant of the law, the twofold aim of which is that guilt shall not escape or innocence suffer. He may prosecute with earnestness and

> vigor--indeed, he should do so. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one.

Id. at 88 (emphasis added),

This Court has echoed repeatedly the mandate of Berger. We have said that the cherished title "United States Attorney" is not a hunting license which exempts its holder from the ethical constraints of advocacy. See United States v. Beckett, 706 F.2d 519, 521 n. 5 (5th Cir. 1983); United States v. Bursten, 453 F.2d 605, 610 (5th Cir. 1972), cert. denied, 409 U.S. 843 (1972). Rather, possessing the title is a privilege, and this privilege requires federal prosecutors to adhere to the highest standards of fairness and justice. As we said in United States v. Corona, 551 F.2d 1386 (5th Cir. 1977), "[w]e would be remiss

if...we did not recall the 'heavy responsibility [of prosecutors]...to conduct criminal trials with an acute sense of fairness and justice.'" Id. at 1391 (quoting United States v. Dawson, 486 F.2d 1326, 1330 (5th Cir. 1974)).

C. Invoking the Supervisory Power Doctrine in this Case

The Court's general statements concerning the purposes for which the supervisory doctrine was created and the Court's sensitivity to the need to invoke the doctrine to preserve jury integrity, promote fairness, and assure justice compel our invoking the doctrine in this case. Ugly in its practice and insidious in its effects, invidious racial discrimination deserves protection in no area of society, least of all in the administration of justice in federal courts. Almost half a century ago, the Supreme Court spoke unanimously and clear-

ly: "For racial discrimination to result in the exclusion from jury service of otherwise qualified groups...is at war with our basic concepts of a democratic society and a representative government." Smith v. Texas, 311 U.S. 128, 130 (1940). That unequivocal statement and the wisdom of Thiel and Ballard apply with equal force today. We thus invoke our supervisory power to assure a minimum level of protection against the use of peremptory challenges to practice invidious racial discrimination in individual cases. We recognize that giving effect to the precept of equality conflicts with the total peremptoriness of peremptory challenges on the part of the prosecutor but hold that at some point the threat of invidious discrimination by

federal officers sworn to effect justice exceeds the bounds of tolerance.[4]

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[4]Other courts have exercised their supervisory authority to ensure that federal prosecutors do not employ peremptory challenges to engage in racial discrimination. See United States v. Jackson, 696 F.2d 578, 593 (8th Cir. 1982), cert. denied, 460 U.S. 1073 (1983); United States v. Nelson, 529 F.2d 40, 43 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 426 U.S. 922 (1976); United States v. McDaniels, 379 F.Supp. 1243, 1249 (E.D.La. 1974)(Rubin D.J.). See also United States v. Robinson, 421 F.Supp. 467, 473 (D. Conn. 1976), mandamus granted sub nom. United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240 (2d Cir.), cert. denied, 432 U.S. 908 (1977). The earliest case in which the supervisory power doctrine was mentioned as a method to control the prosecutor's racially motivated exercise of his peremptory challenges was Hall v. United States, 168 F.2d 161 (D.C. Cir.), cert. denied, 334 U.S. 853 (1948). In Hall, federal prosecutors exercised every peremptory challenge against black veniremen and excluded nineteen blacks from the venire. As a result, the defendants, two black men, were tried and convicted by an all-white jury. Although the defendants had timely objected, the district court and a majority of the appellate court panel concluded that the defendants' Fifth Amendment rights were not violated, since the prosecutor was not required to offer any explanation supporting the manner in which he used the peremptories. Judge Edgerton, in a lone dissent, disagreed. Id. at 165. He initially argued that the

(Footnote cont'd on next page.)

Our holding is narrow and is based upon the factual structure of the case before us. It reflects our recognition that the facts of some cases might justify the prosecutor to consider a prospective juror's race when exercising peremptory challenges. We therefore do not go so far as to hold that racial consideration in every case invariably constitutes invidious racial discrimination. We do not hold that the prosecutor may never consider the veniremen's race as one of the factors affecting his decision to strike or retain those veniremen. But we do not now

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established rules prohibiting the systematic exclusion of blacks from the venire would have no value if those blacks who appeared on the venire could be removed systematically simply because of their race through the prosecutor's uncontrolled exercise of his peremptory challenge. Id. at 166. He emphasized the special role United States Attorneys play in the administration of criminal justice, id. n. 14 (citing Berger), and urged the court to exercise its supervisory power to examine and curtail such practices. Id. The later cases cited above follow the Edgerton position.

define those facts or circumstances in particular cases that may authorize prosecutors to consider the prospective jurors' race as one of the factors affecting their decisions to exercise peremptory challenges. The district court bears the responsibility of inquiring into and determining whether a prosecutor has used his peremptory challenges for unjustifiable, racially discriminatory reasons. If the defendant timely objects, the district court must exercise its supervisory authority to determine whether the prosecutor has considered the veniremen's race in employing his peremptory challenges, and if so whether his consideration of race in that case was justifiable.

In this case the district court treated the peremptory challenges as absolute and did not hear the prosecutor's proffered explanation. Since Leslie timely objected and since

the prosecutor used all of his peremptory challenges against blacks only, the district court should have pursued the inquiry into the prosecutor's reasons for striking the black veniremen. We cannot determine from the record whether the prosecutor excused these veniremen simply because they were black or even if his actions would have been justified had he considered the veniremen's race as one of the factors that affected his decision to strike these veniremen. We therefore remand the case to the district court with directions to conduct a hearing to determine whether the prosecutor exercised his peremptory challenges for unjustifiable, racially discriminatory reasons.

This Court by no means intends to emasculate the wide latitude and discretion federal prosecutors enjoy in exercising peremptory challenges in future criminal cases. Nor do we suggest that a criminal

defendant has a right to a jury containing all of the economic, social, religious, racial, political, and geographical groups of the community. See Apodaca v. Oregon, 406 U.S. 404, 413 (1972); Swain, 380 U.S. at 208; Ballard, 329 U.S. at 192; Thiel, 328 U.S. at 220. Although the historical roots of the peremptory challege in the American system of justice run deep, peremptory challenges are not commanded by the Constitution. See McCray v. New York, 103 S.Ct. 2438, 2442 n. 7 (Marshall, J., dissenting from denial of certiorari); Rosales-Lopez v. United States, 451 U.S. 182, 188 n. 6 (1981); Swain, 380 U.S. at 219. In the exercise of our supervisory power and in the interest of justice, therefore, we conclude that the federal prosecutor's precious, though not absolute, right to employ peremptory challenges without review must yield in those cases where the defendant can establish that the prosecutor

misused those challenges and engaged in invidious racial discrimination.[5]

By resting our holding upon our supervisory power over federal district courts and federal prosecutors we, of course, need not and therefore do not consider whether the prosecutor's conduct in this case violated any of Leslie's constitutional rights. We note, however, that several federal appellate courts and state supreme courts recently have addressed the claim that a defendant's Sixth Amendment right to a jury drawn from a fair cross-section of the community as established in Taylor v. Louisiana, 419 U.S. 522 (1975), necessarily prevents a prosecutor from

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[5]We pertermit the question whether the supervisory power can be invoked when it is established that an accused exercised peremptory challenges with an invidious, racially discriminatory motive. Cf. United States v. Nobles, 422 U.S. 225, 231 & 241 (1975)(federal court may invoke supervisory authority and compel defendant and prosecutor alike to furnish adversary with investigator's pretestimony written report).

striking veniremen solely because of their race.[6] Recently, in Prejean v. Blackburn,

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[6]Several of the courts addressing the issue have concluded that Taylor modified Swain and prevents a prosecutor from using the challenges in such a manner, see McCray v. Abrams, 750 F.2d 1113 (2d Cir. 1984)(relying upon the Sixth Amendment); State v. Neil, 457 So.2d 481, 486 (Fla. 1984)(decided under the state's constitutional counterpart to the Sixth Amendment); State v. Crespin, 94 N.M. 486, 488, 612 P.2d 716, 718 (1980)(same); Commonwealth v. Soares, 377 Mass. 461, 478 & 488, 387 N.E.2d 499, 511 & 516 (same), cert. denied, 441 U.S. 811 (1979); People v. Wheeler, 22 Cal.3d 258, 272 & 277, 148 Cal.Rptr. 890, 899 & 903, 583 P.2d 748, 758 & 762 (1978)(same), while other courts have rejected the argument and concluded that Swain controls any time a defendant seeks to challenge a prosecutor's use of the peremptory challeges. See Willis v. Zant, 720 F.2d 1212, 1219 n. 14 (11th Cir. 1983); United States v. Childress, 715 F.2d 1313, 1320 (8th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984); Weathersby v. Morris, 708 F.2d 1493, 1497 (9th Cir. 1983); Hobson v. State, ___ Ind. ___, ___, 471 N.E. 2d 281, 285 (1984); People v. Williams, 97 Ill.2d 252, 278, 454 N.E.2d 220, 232 (1983); People v. McCray, 57 N.Y.2d 542, 549, 457 N.Y.S.2d 441, 445, 443 N.E.2d 915, 919 (1982), cert. denied, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983); State v. Kelly, 362 So.2d 1071, 1077 (La. 1978); see also United States v. Clark, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984) (declining to reach the issue because defendant failed to establish a sufficient likelihood of racial motivation).

743 F.2d 1091 (5th Cir. 1984), a habeas corpus case, a panel of this Court affirmed the continuing validity of Swain.[7] But since this case, unlike Swain and Prejean, involves a criminal trial in federal court, "the scope of our reviewing power...is not limited to ascertainment of Constitutional validity." We properly must inquire beyond "those minimal historic safeguards for securing trial by reason" to ensure that the

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[7]The Prejean panel neither cited Taylor v. Louisiana nor addressed whether Taylor or any other Sixth Amendment case modified Swain. But see 743 F.2d at 1104 n. 11 (citing cases that have considered this claim). In Prejean, the petitioner claimed that the prosecutor's conduct violated his Sixth and Fourteenth Amendment rights. Id. at 1103. But in his appeal the petitioner merely invited the court to consider the "racial polarization" between the citizenry and the prosecutors as a substitute for Swain's requirement that he demonstrate that prosecutors systematically excluded blacks from petit jury panels over a period of time. The Prejean panel did not accept Prejean's invitation to modify Swain and concluded that Prejean failed to establish a violation of his constitutional rights under Swain.

commands of justice are effected. McNabb, 318 U.S. at 340.

2. PLEA AGREEMENT LETTERS

Leslie also claims error in the contents and admission into evidence of the plea agreement letters between the government and Gray, Griffin, and the other government witnesses who testified again him. These letters contained promises by the witnesses to testify truthfully at any judicial proceeding or in any interview, and authorized the government to verify by any available means the truthfulness of the witnesses' statements. The letters also provided that the witnesses agreed to forfeit all proceeds, profits, and property acquired through illegal drug transactions and promised to provide the government with detailed personal financial information and records.

Leslie levels two distinct challenges against the letters. First, he claims that the letters were significantly under- and over-inclusive because they did not detail all aspects of the actual agreement between the witnesses and the government and because they contained language that was irrelevant to the concessions made by some of the witnesses. Second, he claims that the language of the letters improperly vouched for the credibility of the government witnesses.

A. The Completeness of the Plea Agreement Letters

Relying upon Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150 (1972), Leslie argues that the prosecutor did not disclose all of the considerations extended to the government witnesses which might have affected the witnesses' credibility in the eyes of the jury. In Giglio, a witness for the govern-

ment claimed on cross-examination that he had not secured any agreement with the government in exchange for his willingness to testify against Giglio. The prosecutor made no effort to contradict or clarify the witness' testimony. Evidence discovered by the defendant after the trial indicated that prior to trial the prosecutor had promised the witness either complete immunity or leniency in exchange for the witness' willingness to testify. Concluding that the prosecutor's failure to correct the witness' false statement was incompatible with rudimentary demands of justice, the Supreme Court reversed. The Court reasoned that the prosecutor has a duty to disclose evidence affecting a witness' credibility and that the prosecutor's failure to disclose such evidence warrants a new trial if "'the false testimony could...in any reasonable likelihood have affected the judgment of the

jury.'" Id. at 154 (quoting Napue v. Illinois, 360 U.S. 264, 271 (1959)).

An important aspect of the prosecutor's duty under Giglio, is to present to the jury as complete a picture as possible of the plea agreement between the witness and the government. United States v. Sanfilippo, 564 F.2d 176, 178 (5th Cir. 1977); United States v. Nicholson, 525 F.2d 1233, 1236 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 425 U.S. 972 (1976). The prosecutor may satisfy this obligation by introducing either testimonial evidence of the plea agreement, Nicholson, 525 F.2d at 1236, or a plea agreement letter which memorializes the respective promises of the witness and the government. United States v. Martino, 648 F.2d 367, 389 (5th Cir. 1981), cert. denied, 456 U.S. 949 (1982). Regardless of which method the prosecutor chooses to prove the existence and the details of the plea agreement, Giglio requires the

prosecutor to ensure that the disclosure of the plea agreement to the jury is accurate and complete.

In this case, each government witness with whom the government had negotiated a plea agreement testified on direct examination that the plea agreement letter constituted the entire agreement between himself and the government. Leslie's cross-examination of the various government witnesses, however, revealed that the agreements were significantly under- and over-inclusive of the respective promises made by the government and the witnesses. Griffin, for example, had been charged in three multiple-count indictments of extensive narcotics smuggling, possession, and distribution offenses, including importation of hundreds of pounds of cocaine and tens of tons of marijuana. Griffin's plea agreement indicated that he pled guilty to one count in

each of the three indictments, and these three counts carried a maximum sentence of 45 years. The agreement failed to mention, however, that Griffin had agreed to cooperate with the government largely because of the favorable treatment the government promised to provide his wife, son, and daughter. Like Griffin, his wife, son, and daughter had been charged in several multiple-count indictments for various narcotic offenses, and each was held on a very high bond. Griffin's wife's and son's bonds were set at $1,000,000 each, and his daughter's bond was set at $250,000. After Griffin negotiated his plea with the government and agreed to testify as a government witness, his wife's and son's bonds were reduced to $100,000, and his daughter's bond was reduced to $25,000. In addition, all of the felony charges against Griffin's wife, son, and daughter were dismissed, and each was allowed to plead guilty to a single

misdemeanor count. Leslie revealed all of this information to the jury through Griffin's cross-examination, and he argued the issue to the jury during his closing argument.

Other plea agreements between the government and its witnesses demonstrated that the letters did not disclose all aspects of the negotiated plea. Gray's plea agreement, for example, did not reveal that in exchange for his promise to testify for the government, his bond had been reduced from $1,000,000, which he could not satisfy, to $100,000, which he could. See, e.g., United States v. Garza, 574 F.2d 298, 301 (5th Cir. 1978)(witness' bond reduction as an aspect of the plea agreement, which permitted witness to gain freedom, was an important factor bearing upon the witness' motive and credibility and should have been revealed to the jury). Gray and another government

witness who had executed a plea agreement letter with the government also testified that all of the language in their respective plea agreement letters referring to the forfeiture of assets and the production of financial information neither was negotiated by them nor was relevant to their agreement, since neither witness had bank accounts or other assets which were acquired through illegal drug transactions. Leslie revealed the under- and over-inclusiveness of these plea agreement letters to the jury through his cross-examination of these witnesses.

While we are disturbed by the apparent under- and over-inclusiveness of the submitted plea agreement letters, we find no Giglio violation in this case. Giglio would require a new trial in this case if there was any reasonable likelihood that the government's failure to correct the misinformation concerning the plea agreements affected the

judgment of the jury. If a defendant successfully elicits all aspects of the plea agreement during the witnesses' cross-examination, however, any error in nondisclosure is harmless and not likely to affect the judgment of the jury. United States v. Decker, 543 F.2d 1102, 1105 (5th Cir. 1976), cert. denied, 431 U.S. 906 (1977); see also United States v. Miranne, 688 F.2d 980, 989 (5th Cir. 1982), cert. denied, 459 U.S. 1109 (1983). In this case, Leslie disclosed all aspects of the plea agreements through his effective and thorough examination of the government witnesses, and in his closing argument he asserted that the government's promises provided each witness with an incentive to fabricate his story and falsely implicate Leslie. In view of Leslie's cross-examination and closing argument, we find no reasonable likelihood that the under- and over-inclusiveness of the plea agreement

letters could have affected the judgment of the jury.[8]

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[8]We note that United States v. Garza, 574 F.2d 298 (1978), does not require a contrary result. In Garza, the government introduced into evidence the plea agreement letters of two of its witnesses. The defendant's cross-examination of these witnesses revealed substantial discrepancies between the plea letters and the actual agreements the witnesses had made with the government. The defendant then prepared and submitted several exhibits which accurately stated the benefits the witnesses would receive as a result of their cooperation with the government. When the jury retired, the court permitted the plea agreement letters to accompany the jury to the jury room but over the defendant's timely objection, did not permit the defendant's exhibits concerning the plea bargain to be taken to the jury room. This, we held, was reversible error. We concluded that despite the defendant's thorough and extensive cross-examination of the government's witnesses, the court's selective submission of only the government's exhibits was "tantamount to suggesting that the letter[s] contained the entire agreement between the government and the [witnesses]." Id. at 301. In this case, Leslie offered no documentary evidence which contradicted the terms of the plea agreement letters. The manner in which he challenged the accuracy and completeness of the plea letters was through the witnesses' cross-examination. Since the district court in this case did not, indeed could not, selectively submit to the jury the evidence related to the plea agreement letters, we find this case factually inapposite to Garza.

B. Improper Vouching for the Credibility of the Government Witnesses

In Leslie's alternative challenge to the admission into evidence of the plea agreement letters, he claims that the letters improperly vouched for the credibility of the government witnesses because the witnesses (1) promised to testify truthfully at any judicial proceeding, (2) were subject to perjury charges if they breached that promise, and (3) understood that the government reserved the right to test their veracity and the accuracy of their statements by "any means [it] saw fit." We find nothing improper in these plea bargained promises.

An attempt to bolster a witness by vouching for his credibility ordinarily is improper and constitutes error. United States v. Ellis, 547 F.2d 863, 869 (5th Cir. 1977). The test for improper vouching is whether the prosecutor's expression might

reasonably have led the jury to believe that the prosecutor possessed extrinsic evidence, not presented to the jury, that convinced the prosecutor of the defendant's guilt. Id. see also United States v. Shaw, 701 F.2d 367, 391 (5th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 1419 (1984). A prosecutor, therefore, may not make explicit personal assurances of a witness' veracity. See United States v. Lamerson, 457 F.2d 371, 372 (5th Cir. 1972); Gradsky v. United States, 373 F.2d 706, 709 (5th Cir. 1967).

The first two of Leslie's three points are easily disposed of. A witness' promise in a plea agreement letter to testify truthfully at any judicial proceeding in which he or she may be called as a witness is the same promise he or she makes when called as a witness at trial. As such, a mere promise to testify truthfully does not amount to improper vouching. See Martino, 648 F.2d at

389. Closely related to the witness' promise to testify truthfully is the witness' understanding of the penalty for breaching that promise--perjury charges. A witness' written acknowledgement of his understanding of the penalty for testifying falsely obviously is not an improper vouching for the credibility of the witness' testimony.

The more difficult question is raised by Leslie's third point. It concerns the effect of the language in the plea agreement letter which authorized the government "to verify by any means it [saw] fit any statements or testimony given by the [witness]." We conclude that this language standing alone did not constitute improper vouching for the witnesses' credibility. In contrast is the case of Gradsky v. United States, supra, in which we held that the following statement by the prosecutor to the jury improperly

bolstered the credibility of the government witnesses and required reversal:

> [T]he government ha[d] every opportunity to check out and to judge the credibility and truthfulness of [its witnesses] in this case, and in that context, we offered you [the jurors] their testimony.

373 F.2d at 710. We reasoned that the prosecutor's statement implied that the government had, in fact, independently verified the story that the government witnesses conveyed to the jury.

Leslie fails in his attempt to characterize the language at issue in this case as having the same meaning as the language we found offensive in Gradsky. Merely reserving the right to test independently the veracity of a witness' testimony neither implies that the right has been exercised nor reasonably could lead the jury to believe that the prosecutor possessed extrinsic evidence that convinced the prosecutor of the

defendant's guilt. In fact, in this case the prosecutor repeatedly cautioned the jury in both his opening and closing arguments to examine independently the prosecution's witnesses and judge their credibility based upon the evidence presented. See United States v. Sims, 719 F.2d 375, 377 (5th Cir. 1983)(prosecutor's suggestion to jury that government witness' testimony was circumspect and that the jury should examine testimony closely removed any doubt that neither prosecutor nor plea agreement letter served to vouch for the credibility of the government witness), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 1304 (1984). Ellis, 547 F.2d at 869 (same). In view of the prosecutor's cautionary remarks and the neutral nature of the statement in the plea agreement letters, we find that neither the prosecutor nor the plea agreement letters impermissibly vouched for the credibility of the government witnesses.

3. IMPEACHMENT OF A PROSECUTION WITNESS

Leslie's final claim is that the district court erred by refusing to permit him to impeach Giron's testimony by calling Moriarty, Giron's attorney, to testify. The hearing conducted by the district court outside the jury's presence demonstrates that Moriarty would have testified that (1) Giron responded "Yes" when Moriarty asked: "Are you [Giron] willing to testify in this case against Leslie?" and (2) Moriarty thought that Giron understood that he (Giron) was required to testify in this case against Leslie in order to secure the plea agreement. Giron had testified on cross-examination that at the time he consummated the plea agreement with the government he did not know that he would be called as a government witness in Leslie's case. Leslie claims that Moriarty's testimony was necessary to impeach Giron's

testimony and show Giron's bias against Leslie.

Any incentive a witness may have to falsify his testimony, commonly referred to as bias, United States v. Canales, 744 F.2d 413, 425 (5th Cir. 1984), is relevant to the witness' credibility and the resulting weight the jury should accord to the witness' testimony. United States v. Hall, 653 F.2d 1002, 1008 (5th Cir. 1981); United States v. Diecidue, 603 F.2d 535, 550 (5th Cir. 1979), cert. denied, 445 U.S. 946 (1980); 3 J. Weinstein, Weinstein's Evidence ¶607-03, at 607-23 (1982). As such, the party challenging the witness should be afforded an opportunity to pursue all relevant lines of inquiry aimed at discovering and disclosing such bias. Hall, 653 F.2d at 1008. The defendant seeking to demonstrate the existence of a bias may impeach a witness' claim of no bias either by effective

cross-examination, Davis v. Alaska, 415 U.S. 308, 316 (1974); United States v. Andrew, 666 F.2d 915, 924 (5th Cir. 1982), or by introducing extrinsic evidence demonstrating the witness' bias. United States v. Lay, 644 F.2d 1087, 1090 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 454 U.S. 869 (1981); Diecidue, 603 F.2d at 550. The district court has broad discretion in determining how bias may be proved and what extrinsic evidence is material to that purpose. The district court's judgment will be disturbed only where the defendant can show an abuse of discretion. United States v. Landes, 704 F.2d 152, 154 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 176 (1983); Diecidue, 603 F.2d at 550; United States v. Love, 599 F.2d 107, 108 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 444 U.S. 944 (1979).

This case concerns the propriety of using certain extrinsic evidence, rather than extended cross-examination, to impeach

Giron's testimony and show Giron's bias. In his first claim, Leslie argues that Moriarty's hearing testimony would have demonstrated that Giron made a prior, out of court statement that was inconsistent with his trial testimony and would have tended to show his bias. Because Leslie laid no foundation for the introduction of Giron's prior statement, we reject this claim and hold that the district court properly excluded Moriarty's testimony related to Giron's statement.

Fed. R. Evid. 613(b) provides, in part:

> Extrinsic evidence of a prior inconsistent statement by a witness is not admissible unless the witness is afforded an opportunity to explain or deny the same and the opposite party is afforded an opportunity to interrogate him thereon, or the interests of justice otherwise require.

Rule 613(b) establishes three criteria that must be met before evidence of the prior statement is admissible:

> (1) [The statement] must be a prior inconsistent statement of the witness;
>
> (2) The witness must be afforded an opportunity to explain or deny [having made] the statement; and
>
> (3) The opposing party must be afforded an opportunity to interrogate the witness concerning the statement.

United States v. Rice, 550 F.2d 1364, 1374 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 434 U.S. 954 (1977). In United States v. Lay, supra, 664 F.2d at 1090, we concluded that Rule 613(b) and its foundation requirements apply in cases where the defendant seeks to introduce extrinsic evidence to impeach a witness' trial testimony and demonstrate bias. See also 3 J. Weinstein, supra, ¶607-03, at 607-43 (arguing that Rule 613(b) applies to bias claims and requires party seeking to establish bias to lay a proper foundation before extrinsic evidence may be offered).

Leslie failed to satisfy the first two aspects of the foundation requirement. As the district court found, Giron's trial testimony that he did not know at the time he consummated the plea agreement with the government that he would be called as a government witness in Leslie's case is not inconsistent with his response to Moriarty's question. At the time the agreement was made, Giron could have been willing to testify against Leslie but might not then have known that he in fact would be called as a government witness in Leslie's case and expected to testify against Leslie. Leslie also failed to afford Giron an opportunity to explain or deny making the statement, a specific requirement of Rule 613(b). Leslie, therefore, was not allowed to offer extrinsic evidence showing that Giron had made the statement. See United States v. Balliviero, 708 F.2d 934, 940 (5th Cir.)(since witnes

merely could not recall having made prior and allegedly inconsistent statement, rather than having denied making statement, defendant was properly barred from offering extrinsic evidence demonstrating that witness had made statement), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 351 (1983).

After Moriarty was excused as a witness at the hearing, the district court on three successive occasions offered Leslie the opportunity to question Giron. On each occasion, Leslie declined the opportunity and essentially waived his chance to ask Giron to explain or deny making the statement. Having failed to satisfy this minimal foundation requirement, Leslie cannot successfully argue that the district court abused its discretion in preventing him from calling Moriarty to testify about Giron's alleged prior statement.

Leslie also claims that Moriarty should have been permitted to testify at trial about Giron's understanding of the requirements of the plea agreement. Moriarty would have testified that he thought that Giron understood that he (Giron) would be required to testify against Leslie before the government would accept Giron's guilty plea. Other than Giron's response to the question concerning his "willingness" to testify against Leslie, Moriarty neither pointed to any other colloquy between himself and Giron nor reported any observation of Giron which supported his belief that Giron knew that the plea agreement was predicated upon his agreeing to testify against Leslie in this case. Moriarty's hearing testimony demonstrates that his perception of his client's understanding of the plea agreement was, at best, speculative. We find, therefore, that the district court did not abuse its

discretion in denying Leslie's request to call Moriarty as a witness. The court properly weighed the minimal probative value of Moriarty's hearing testimony against its potentially prejudicial impact. See Landes, 704 F.2d at 154; Diecidue, 603 F.2d at 550.

III.

In summary, we hold that district courts must exercise their supervisory power to ensure that prosecutors do not misuse peremptory challenges to engage in invidious racial discrimination. We reverse and remand with instructions for the district court to conduct a hearing consistent with this opinion for the purpose of determining whether the prosecutor in this case exercised his peremptory challenges for impermissible, racially discriminatory reasons. If the conclusion is that he did, there must be a new trial. In all other respects, the judgment of the district court is affirmed.

AFFIRMED IN PART, REVERSED AND REMANDED IN PART.

Judge Brown concurs. Judge Garwood plans to file a dissenting opinion at a later date.

IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

NO. 83-3719

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff-Appellee

VERSUS

EUGENE LESLIE,

Defendant-Appellant

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

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(April 19, 1985)

Before BROWN, WILLIAMS and GARWOOD, Circuit Judges.

GARWOOD, Circuit Judge, dissenting.

I respectfully dissent from the holding that this case should be remanded for inquiry into the prosecution's reasons for exercising its peremptory challenges against black venirepersons.

Context of Facts

Appellant Leslie was charged, along with Fernando Giron, a Honduran, with distributing and conspiring to distribute cocaine. Trial was held in New Orleans. After the first day of trial, Giron pleaded guilty and testified for the government. Other significant witnesses for the government were Claude Griffin, who testified that he had acquired cocaine from Giron and distributed it to Leslie, who then redistributed it, and Thomas Gray, who had transported cocaine from Houston to New Orleans for Griffin, received money from Leslie in exchange for the drugs, and then given the money to Griffin. Giron, Griffin, and Gray are white; Leslie is black.

The record contains no transcript of the voir dire or jury selection process, although it does include the jury list showing those removed for cause and by

peremptory challenge. When the court completed excusing venirepersons for cause, the jury panel had been reduced to twenty-eight, of whom six were black. The government used its six peremptory challenges to remove these six blacks, and the defense used its ten peremptory challenges to remove ten whites. Of the four persons comprising the alternate pool, one was black; the government used its alternate peremptory to remove this individual, and the defense used its alternate peremptory to remove a white from the alternate pool. The procedure and order of exercising peremptory strikes are not reflected in the record.

After the peremptories were completed, Leslie's counsel moved for a mistrial. He complained that the government used its peremptories to remove all the blacks from the jury and alternate pools, and that "in this case, Mr. Leslie is a black man in this

community; he has standing in the black community. And without a single black on that jury, there is no way to communicate through peers in this community." Leslie's counsel in effect admitted that there was no racially discriminatory "pattern or practice" of striking blacks, did not claim that anything similar had ever occurred before or would occur again, and made no attempt to analyze or comment on the voir dire or the composition of the venire panel in any terms other than who was black and who was white. He stated that "race is the only thing that explains this situation," and urged use of "the Court's discretion." The Assistant United States Attorney who tried the case for the government stated that the excused blacks were "not struck on the basis of race" and offered to give "an in camera reason," which the court declined. The matter was not

raised again in the trial court, either by motion for new trial or otherwise.

On appeal, Leslie's brief casts his complaint in the following context:

> "Eugene Leslie, a prominent black fight promoter and trainer in the City of New Orleans was tried by an all white jury...on cocaine conspiracy and distribution charges....No significant witness against Leslie was black....
>
> "The government's theory was that Claude Griffin...had bought cocaine from a Honduran, Leslie's co-indictee Fernando Giron, in Houston, Texas. Griffin sold a part of the cocaine to defendant Leslie....
>
> "FBI agents...intercepted phone calls between Griffin and Leslie. These telephone calls did not mention cocaine. The calls, however, sounded suspicious to FBI ears since Leslie had repetitively and in varying forms asked Griffin whether there was 'anything yet.'
>
> "The defense presented an entirely innocent explanation for the style of the conversations with Griffin: it was typical for Leslie, a black man, to speak in shorthand about things which he and the other individual in the conversation understood....

"Leslie explained the true meaning of his conversations with Griffin in the following manner. Leslie had first met Griffin in Griffin's capacity as an air-conditioning repairman and installer. They struck up a friendship; Leslie visited Griffin, and Griffin visited Leslie. At Griffin's house, Leslie met the co-indictee, Fernando Giron, who was from Honduras. Giron had a relative who possessed an old Volkswagen; Leslie had a hobby of reconditioning old cars, and was interested in that Volkswagen. Additionally, Griffin and Giron talked about young Honduran fighters, and the possibility of their coming to the United States for training; Leslie, ever ready for the opportunity to train a champion, was interested in developing that connection.

"....

"Along with the suspicious conversations of Leslie with Griffin, the FBI had recorded similarly suspicious conversations by Griffin with another prominent black man in the city, the funeral director Alton Glapion. Glapion was a closer friend of Griffin's than was Leslie. Griffin had known Glapion for 20 years, Leslie for under two....Griffin was then involved in major business dealings with Glapion and Glapion was ready, willing and able to put up his funeral home for bond for Griffin; Leslie on the other

hand owed Griffin money....It was the defense theory of the case...that when Griffin said the oil conversations with Leslie were about cocaine, while the oil conversations with Glapion were about oil,...that he had made a self-preserving choice; Griffin had given up the innocent Leslie to protect the also innocent Glapion in order to preserve his credibility, and thereby to save himself and his family, who were indicted along with him, from certain annihilation by the government.[1]

"....

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[1]Leslie's brief elaborates on this point as follows:

> "In other words it was the belief of the defense that Griffin, faced with similarly suspicious intercepted telephone conversations from his two black friends, Glapion and Leslie, could not say that both of them were innocent of wrongdoing, even though that were true. Griffin could not exculpate both of his black friends, and still be believed to the extent that he would receive misdemeanors for his involved family members, and his single count deals....He was forced to choose, and so chose his greater friend, Glapion, over his lesser friend, Leslie. Griffin therefore implicated Leslie, as the least of the horribles with which he had to contend and choose."

> "...To acquit the defendant Leslie, a black fight promoter from New Orleans, the jury had to be open to the possibility that Leslie had spoken to Claude Griffin, the principal prosecution witness, in a shorthand that was not code for cocaine. There was no black juror to explain to the rest of the jurors in their deliberations that there was nothing irregular about Leslie's speech patterns; to mediate between Leslie's lifestyle and that of the white jurors; or to evaluate the credibility of the defense from the black perspective."

It is implicit in the foregoing that Leslie does not complain that he was tried by a prosecutor or jury that bore any racial

animosity toward him or blacks generally.[2] Rather, he complains that, because of the peculiar factual setting of this case, he needed one or more black jurors to "translate" his speech and conduct to the rest of the jury; in effect, to vouch for his explanation of the suspicious conversations and activities.[3] It is likewise implicit

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[2]Indeed, were that the case Leslie would hardly have said, as he did in his brief, that

> "[t]here are two serious issues before the court. The first involves the government's misuse of plea bargain letters to bolster and vouch for its witnesses. The second involves the refusal to allow the defense to prove a motive to lie on the part of a principal prosecution witness, when that witness denied the existence of the motive. Both of these issues are intricately connected with the disputed facts in the four day trial in which 20 witnesses testified."

[3]Leslie's brief describes this as "a case where the black defendant's mode of conversation, position in the community and lifestyle required translation to the jury for the defense to be credibly received."

that Leslie has never contended that the prosecution peremptorily struck black venirepersons because of personal or official hostility toward blacks, or as part of an effort to prevent black citizens from serving on criminal juries. Rather, the prosecution apparently made the strikes simply in an effort to procure, from among those summoned and not disqualified, a jury which, under the discrete facts of this particular case, would least likely be partial to Leslie, by excluding blacks as individuals either most prone to see their role as that of translator or spokesman for Leslie or perhaps as being particularly susceptible to influence on behalf of one so prominent in the black community. This is also apparent from Leslie's statement in his brief, repeated in substance at oral argument, that:

> "Indeed, there is no pattern or practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern

> District of Louisiana which could be proved up by a systematic and exhaustive examination of the peremptory practices of the prosecutors. Black jurors are no less prosecution oriented in most cases than are jurors of other races."

The Issue

Accordingly, the question here is not whether the prosecution may peremptorily challenge blacks in an effort to deny citizens of that race the right and privilege of serving on criminal juries. Nor is it what character of proof suffices to sustain such a claim, prima facie or otherwise. No such claim is made. Rather, the issue here is whether the prosecution may take race or similar group characteristics into account when it exercises a peremptory challenge for the sole purpose of procuring a jury least likely to be partial to the defense, in light of the discrete facts of the particular case being tried.

Swain v. Alabama

I believe the answer to this question is clearly supplied by part II of the Supreme Court's opinion in Swain v. Alabama, 85 S.Ct. 824 (1965). As in this case, the prosecution in Swain peremptorily struck all six black venirepersons on the jury panel, with the result that the black defendant was tried by an all-white jury. Swain is, of course, a much cited and quoted opinion. But it is perhaps worthwhile to take another look.

So far as it concerned peremptory challenges by the prosecution based on race or similar group membership, Swain distinguished between and dealt separately with two types of such challenges: first, those made for the purpose of the particular case being tried, which it addressed in part II; second, those made "for reasons wholly unrelated to the outcome of the particular case on trial...to deny the Negro the same

right and opportunity to participate in the administration of justice enjoyed by the white population" (id. at 838), which it considered in part III. The distinction between the two categories of racially based peremptory challenges is likewise reflected in the description of the second type as being the kind the prosecution would make "whatever the circumstances, whatever the crime and whoever the defendant or the victim may be." Id. at 837. In Swain part II, the Court held that racially based peremptory challenges of the first kind were a proper and a traditional part of the jury system as known to the common law and American jurisprudence. In its part III, the Swain Court strongly initimated that racially based peremptory challenges of the second kind were improper, but did not expressly rule that they were since it held that no sufficient

showing had been made that the challenges in question were of that kind.

Justice Goldberg, joined by Chief Justice Warren and Justice Douglas, dissented. Id. at 840-50.[4] The dissent, however, found no fault with part II of Swain or its holding respecting the first type of race-based peremptory challenge. Rather, the dissent took the view that a proper prima facie case was made that the race-based peremptory challenges were of the second kind. The dissent emphasized that the Alabama venire selection system, which relied in large part on subjective choices by individual jury commissioners, produced venires in the county of trial that averaged ten to fifteen percent black, although blacks

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[4]Justice Harlan joined in the Court's opinion, but emphasized his understanding that the Court did not ultimately decide whether or not the second type of race-based peremptory challenge, addressed in part III, was improper. Id. at 840. Justice Black concurred in the result without opinion. Id.

constituted twenty-six percent of the population available for jury service; and that "this method of venire selection cannot be viewed in isolation and must be considered in connection with the peremptory challenge system." Id. at 845. They particularly noted "it is undisputed that no Negro has ever served on any petit jury in" the county. Id. The dissent summarized its views by stating:

> "The holding called for by this case, is that where as here, a Negro defendant proves that Negroes constitute a substantial segment of the population, that Negroes are qualified to serve as jurors, and that none or only a token number has served on juries over an extended period of time, a prima facie case of the exclusion of Negroes from juries is then made out;...and that the State wholly fails to meet the prima facie case of systematic and purposeful racial discrimination by showing that it has been accomplished by the use of a peremptory challenge system unless the State also shows that it is not involved in the misuse of such a system to prevent all Negroes from ever sitting on any jury. Such a holding would not interfere

with the rights of defendants [emphasis in original] to use peremptories, nor the right of the State to use peremptories as they normally and traditionally have been used.

"It would not mean...that Negroes are entitled to proportionate representation on a jury....Nor would it mean that where systematic exclusion of Negroes from jury service has not been shown, a prosecutor's motives are subject to question or judicial inquiry when he excludes Negroes or any other group from sitting on a jury in a particular case. Only where systematic exclusion has been shown, would the State be called upon to justify its use of peremptories or to negative the State's involvement in discriminatory jury selection." Id.

at 849 (footnote omitted; emphasis added).[5]

The Eighth Circuit has observed, "The

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[5]Certain scholarly comment has given a similar reading of Swain. See Saltzburg and Powers, Peremptory Challenges and the Clash Between Impartiality and Group Representation, 41 Md.L.R. 337, 345 (1982):

> "The Swain Court thus recognized two possible motives for exercising challenges against black jurors. The first -- the use of race as a proxy by which to identify probably prejudice in a particular case -- was explicitly approved by all the justices, except Justice Black who concurred in the result without opinion. The Court emphasized the importance of protecting the inviolability of the peremptory strike, concluding that a court should not scrutinize a prosecutor's motive for challenging blacks in a particular case. The second -- the use of challenges to keep blacks off all juries -- was not approved."

See also United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240, 248-49 (2d Cir. 1977)(quoting Swain dissent and discussing common strains in the majority and dissenting opinions); United States v. Childress, 715 F.2d 1313, 1315 (8th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984) (comparing the majority and dissenting opinions, and the extent to which they agree).

very heavy burden of proof set forth in Swain has been extensively criticized by commentators." United States v. Childress, 715 F.2d 1313, 1316 (8th Cir. 1983)(en banc), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984). In a related vein, it has also been stated that "Swain obviously furnishes no protection whatever to the first defendant who suffers such discrimination in any given court." People v. Wheeler, 583 P.2d 748, 767 (Cal. 1978).[6] What these concerns are directly relevant to, though, is the proof required to sustain a claim that the prosecution's

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[6]Much the same thing, of course, could be said of any approach under which a material factor in the judgment in a particular case is an evaluation of the results in other similar situations over a period of time. Performance over time frequently has been looked to in venire underrepresentation cases. See cases and principles discussed in Rose v. Mitchell, 99 S.Ct. 2993, 3005, 3007, 3009 (1979). Cf. Wainwright v. Witt, 105 S.Ct. 844, 860 nn. 1-2, 871 n. 11 (1985)(Brennan, J., dissenting; observations relating to consistent affirmance of convictions by death-qualified juries and more recent evidence of their conviction-proneness).

exercise of peremptory challenges is of the second Swain kind. Here, as noted, we are not concerned with how such a claim is or should be proved, because no such claim is asserted. What we are concerned with is a claim of racially based peremptory challenges of the first Swain kind.

We turn then to Swain part II for an understanding of the holding--from which no Justice on that Court, then well past a decade under the leadership of Chief Justice Warren, dissented--that this sort of peremptory challenge is valid. Justice White commenced by stating that the defendant's motion "seeking as it did to invalidate the alleged purposeful striking of Negroes from the jury...was properly denied." Id. at 831. He noted that "there is merit in" the state's contention that the system of peremptory strikes, described as "challenges without cause, without explanation and without

judicial scrutiny," justified "striking any group of otherwise qualified jurors in any given case, whether they be Negroes, Catholics, accountants or those with blue eyes." Id.

The opinion traces the over 600-year-old history of the peremptory challege at common law, observing that in one form or another "[p]eremptories on both sides became the settled law of England" and that "[t]his common law provided the starting point for peremptories in this country." Id. at 832. The opinion further traces the continuous existence, from the beginnings of this nation, of some form of peremptory challenge, in all trials of serious offenses, by both prosecution and defense in the federal system and in all or nearly all of the states. Id. at 832-34. The majority took note of the existence of explicit statutory recognition of the government's

right of peremptory challenge in federal courts ever since 1865. Id. at 832-33. Although he recognized that the United States Constitution does not mandate the availability of peremptory challenges,[7] Justice White stated that "[t]he persistence of peremptories and their extensive use demonstrates the long and widely held belief that peremptory challenge is a necessary part of trial by jury." Id. at 835.[8]

The opinion continues by noting:

> "The function of the challenge is not only to eliminate extremes of partiality on both sides, but to assure the parties that the jurors

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[7]While several other Supreme Court opinions have also so stated, see Stilson v. United States, 40 S.Ct. 28, 30 (1919); United States v. Wood, 57 S.Ct. 177, 185 (1936); Frazier v. United States, 69 S.Ct. 210, 206 n. 11 (1949), the Court has never been faced with a complete abrogation of the peremptory challenge.

[8]See Lewis v. United States, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892)("The right of [peremptory] challenge comes from the common law with the trial by jury itself, and has always been held essential to the fairness of trial by jury.").

> before whom they try the case will decide on the basis of the evidence placed before them, and not otherwise." Id. at 835.

It also explains that "the peremptory permits rejection for a real or imagined partiality that is less easily designated or demonstrable" than is required for challenges for cause. Id. at 836.[9] Another function of the peremptory is that it "facilitates the exercise of challenges for cause by removing the fear of incurring a juror's hostility through examination and challenge for cause." Id. at 835. The state is as fully entitled to these benefits as the defendant:

> "[T]he view in this country has been that the system should guarantee 'not only freedom from any bias against the accused, but also from any prejudice against his prosecution. Between him and the state the scales

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[9]A related, long-recognized common-law function noted by Justice Story is that the prisoner "may not be tried by persons against whom he has conceived a prejudice." United States v. Marchant & Colson, 12 Wheat 480, 481, 6 L.Ed. 700, 702 (1827). See also Lewis v. United States, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892).

> are to be evenly held.' Hayes v. State of Missouri, 120 U.S. 68, 70, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351, 30 L.Ed. 578 [1887]." Id.

As to use of peremptories on the basis of the racial or other group-related, as opposed to individual, characteristics of the challenged venireperson, Swain states that:

> "It [the peremptory challenge] is no less frequently exercised on grounds normally though irrelevant to legal proceedings or officia action, namely, the race, religion, nationality, occupation or affiliations of people summoned for jury duty. For the question a prosecutor or defense counsel must decide is not whether a juror of a particular race or nationality is in fact partial, but whether one from a different group is less likely to be. It is well known that these factors are widely explored during the voir dire, by both prosecutor and accused....This Court has held that the fairness of trial by jury requires no less...Hence veniremen are not always judged solely as individuals for the purpose of exercising peremptory challenges. Rather they are challenged in light of the limited knowledge counsel has of them, which may include their group affiliations, in the context of the case to be tried.

"...In the quest for an impartial and qualified jury, Negro and white, Protestant and Catholic, are alike subject to being challenged without cause. To subject the prosecutor's challenge in any particular case to the demands and traditional standards of the Equal Protection Clause would entail a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge. The challenge, pro tanto, would no longer be peremptory....

"...The presumption in any particular case must be that the prosecutor is using the State's challenges to obtain a fair and impartial jury to try the case before the court. The presumption is not overcome and the prosecutor therefore subjected to examination by allegations that in the case at hand all Negroes were removed from the jury or that they were removed because they were Negroes." Id. at 836-37 (footnotes omitted).

This language is, of coures, wholly at odds with the theory of such cases as People v. Wheeler, supra, and Commonwealth v. Soares, 387 N.E.2d 499, 514-15 (Mass.), cert. denied, 100 S.Ct. 170 (1979), that a venireperson may not properly be peremptorily challenged because of characteristics thought

to be peculiarly common to any "cognizable" group of which she is a member, as distinguished from her assumed uniquely individual (or noncognizable group) characteristics. Plainly, the Supreme Court in Swain has held that a prosecutor may peremptorily challenge on racial (or similar group) grounds so long as he does so, as Leslie in essence claims was done here, on "considerations related to the case he is trying, the particular defendant involved and the particular crime charged." Swain, 85 S.Ct. at 837.

In sum, as the Eighth Circuit said in United States v. Carter, 528 F.2d 844, 850 (8th Cir. 1975), cert. denied, 96 S.Ct. 1745 (1976), "the Supreme Court in Swain made it clear that race or other group affiliation is

in fact a legitimate ground for challenge in an individual case."[10]

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[10]Similarly, we have said "the Supreme Court has recognized that the peremptory challenge cannot be subject to judicial review even when exercised by the prosecution along racial lines." Sorenson v. Raymond, 532 F.2d 496, 500 (5th Cir. 1976)(citing Swain part II). This, of course, is the recognized view. See, e.g., United States v. Thompson, 730 F.2d 82, 85 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 105 S.Ct. 443 (1984)(prosecution peremptory challenges of blacks from venire confessedly "based on the assumed racial affinity of these prospective jurors to designated black alibi witneses" is sanction by Swain and does not violate the sixth amendment); United States v. Clark, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984)("[t]he Supreme Court held some years ago that it is not a denial of the equal protection of the laws for a prosecutor to base peremptory challenges on racial grounds, provided that he is not doing so in pursuance of a systematic policy of racial exclusion from juries," citing Swain); United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240, 249 (2d Cir. 1977) (proper peremptory under Swain where prosecutors "'believed that the striking of Black veniremen would lessen the risk of bias in favor of the [black] defendant'"); United States v. Danzey, 476 F.Supp. 1065, 1066 (E.D.N.Y. 1979), aff'd per curiam, 620 F.2d 286, reh'g en banc denied, 622 F.2d 1065, 1066 (2d Cir.), cert. denied, 101 S.Ct. 225 (1980)(peremptory challenges "to exclude jurors of the same ethnic background as the defendant"; four judges concurring in denial

Swain and the Sixth Amendment

It has been suggested that Swain is no longer authoritative, or at least is not authoritative with respect to cases in which the sixth amendment is implicated, because it was decided some three years before it was first held, in Duncan v. Louisiana, 88 S.Ct. 1444 (1968), that the sixth amendment applied

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of rehearing en banc state that "use of peremptory challenges based on a group bias assumption denies no cognizable legal rights 'in any particular case,'" citing Swain, though it might do so if used "to exclude Blacks from service as jurors in general or in a significant category of cases"); King v. County of Nassau, 581 F.Supp. 493, 500 (E.D.N.Y. 1984)("under Swain, state use of racial criteria in making peremptory challenges is illegal only when the state, acting on a policy of white dominance, attempts to keep blacks off all juries" (emphasis in original)); State v. Grady, 286 N.W.2d 607, 611 (Wis. Ct. App. 1979)("Swain, as adopted, establishes race as an appropriate basis for the exercise of peremptory challenges").

to the states.[11] In this connection, it is claimed that the racially based peremptory challenges of the kind sustained in Swain part II violate the sixth amendment's "cross-section requirement," particularly as reflected in cases such as Taylor v. Louisiana, 95 S.Ct. 692 (1975). See McCray v. Abrams, 750 F.2d 1113, 1124-30 (2d Cir. 1984), reh'g en banc denied, No. 84-2026, slip op. at 2356 (2d Cir. Mar. 4, 1985).

Certainly no such view is open to adoption by this panel. This Court consistently has applied Swain in federal prosecutions, even when it has been obvious that the sixth amendment is applicable. Thus, we stated in United States v. Williams, 446 F.2d 486, 488 (5th Cir. 1971):

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[11] In DeStefano v. Woods, 88 S.Ct. 2093 (1968) (per curiam), the Court held that Duncan was inapplicable to cases in which trial began prior to May 20, 1968, the date Duncan was decided.

> "Appellant next contends that he was denied his constitutional rights to a trial by an impartial jury. Appellant, a Negro, was tried by an all-white jury....He objects, however, to the fact that although there were three Negroes on the twenty-eight-man jury venire, all three were peremptorily stricken by the Government prosecutor without cause or explanation, in violation of his Sixth Amendment rights. Such a contention conflicts with the holding of Swain v. State of Alabama...in which the Supreme Court upheld the system of peremptory challenges, explicitly finding merit in the State's argument that the system affords 'a suitable and necessary method of securing juries which in fact and in the opinion of the parties are fair and impartial.'"

Other decisions of this Court applying Swain in federal prosecutions include: Davis v. United States, 374 F.2d 1, 5 (5th Cir. 1967); United States v. Pearson, 448 F.2d 1207, 1213-14 (5th Cir. 1971); United States v. Carlton, 456 F.2d 207, 208 (5th Cir. 1972)(per curiam). We have continued with like holdings after Taylor. See e.g., United States v. Durham, 587 F.2d 799, 801 (5th Cir.

1979); United States v. McLaurin, 557 F.2d 1064, 1076 (5th Cir.), cert. denied sub nom. Hamilton v. United States, 98 S.Ct. 743 (1977). In affirming the conviction in McLaurin, we stated:

> "They [appellants] argue that...the government exercised its peremptory challenges in a racially discriminatory manner, the net effect of which was to deny the appellants their right to be tried by a jury which is representative of their community.
>
> "...Although Swain of course involved state rather than federal proceedings, we apply the same standards and analysis in our review of federal criminal trials." Id. at 1076 (emphasis added; footnote omitted).

Likewise, we have continued to apply Swain to our consideration of habeas corpus applications arising from state convictions in trials after Duncan and Taylor. See Easter v. Estelle, 609 F.2d 756, 759-60 (5th Cir. 1980); Prejean v. Blackburn, 743 F.2d 1091, 1103-04 (5th Cir. 1984). In Prejean we

followed this course despite explicit recognition of the opinions on the denial of certiorari in McCray v. New York, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983). We cited with approval the Eleventh Circuit's opinion in Willis v. Zant, 720 F.2d 1212, 1217-21 (11th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 3546 (1984), in which that Circuit stated (720 F.2d at 1219 n. 14), "[W]e decline petitioner's invitation to extend the sixth amendment's cross-section analysis under Taylor, supra, to traverse jury itself." See Prejean, 743 F.2d at 1104 & n. 11. See also Sonnier v. Maggio, 720 F.2d 401, 407-08, reh'g en banc denied, 723 F.2d 907 (5th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 1331 (1984).

In its referenced holdings, our Court is consistent with a vast host of decisions by other Circuits which apply Swain in federal prosecutions and in habeas cases for state trials after Duncan and Taylor. No

useful purpose would be served by citing all of these cases. Some pre-date Swain itself, such as Hall v. United States, 168 F.2d 161 (D.C. Cir.), cert. denied, 68 S.Ct. 1509 (1948), where the dissent was expressly grounded on the theory that the jury must be drawn from a cross section, with no cognizable group intentionally excluded, and that the federal courts should ensure this by use of supervisory powers over peremptory challenges. Id. at 165-66. Hall was cited with approval in Swain, 85 S.Ct. at 836 n. 26, and also by this Court in Carlton, 456 F.2d at 208. Some of the more recent federal appellate decisions to the same effect are collected in the dissent in McCray v. Abrams,

750 F.2d at 1136.[12] McCray appears to be the sole federal appellate decision reaching a contrary result, albeit over a vigorous dissent.[13]

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[12]These are Willis v. Zant, 720 F.2d 1212, 1219 n. 14 (11th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 3546 (1984); United States v. Childress, 715 F.2d 1313 (8th Cir. 1983)(en banc), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984); United States v. Whitfield, 715 F.2d 145, 146-47 (4th Cir. 1983); Weathersby v. Morris, 708 F.2d 1493, 1497 (9th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 719 (1984); United States v. Canel, 708 F.2d 894, 898 (3d Cir.), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 165 (183); United States v. Jenkins, 701 F.2d 850, 859-60 (10th Cir. 1983). See also United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240, 244, 246 (2d Cir. 1977); United States v. Danzey, 476 F.Supp. 1065, 1067 (E.D.N.Y. 1979), aff'd per curiam, 620 F.2d 286, reh'g en banc denied, 622 F.2d 1065 (2d Cir.), cert. denied, 101 S.Ct. 225 (1980); United States v. Thompson, 730 F.2d 82, 85 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 105 S.Ct. 443 (1984); United States v. Clark, 737 F.2d 679, 681-82 (7th Cir. 1984); United States v. Calhoun, 542 F.2d 1094, 1103 (9th Cir. 1976).

[13]As reflected in the opinions on denial of rehearing en banc, McCray's precedential value is undermined "by the lack of adversity between the litigants on the central issue in the case," leading at least one member of the Second Circuit to view it as not binding on future panels of that Court. McCray v. Abrams, No. 84-2026, slip op. at 2356 (2d Cir. Mar. 4, 1985).

Before the 1978 decision in People v. Wheeler, the state courts had been unanimous in following the principle of Swain. See Annot., 79 A.L.R.3d 14 (1977). Wheeler itself, though it gives extensive consideration to decisions of the United States Supreme Court, is ultimately based on the California Constitution. The California Supreme Court stated:

> "The court's motivation in Swain seems to have been its desire to avoid what it believed would be 'a radical change in the nature and operation of the [peremptory] challenge' (380 U.S. at pp. 221-222, 85 S.Ct. at p. 836), and we strongly suspect that desire has survived the advent of the Taylor rule. We therefore assume that if the present question were before the high court it would reaffirm Swain and reach the same result under the representative cross-section rule as it did under the equal protection clause." 583 P.2d at 767 (footnote omitted.)[14]

Other states that have followed Wheeler have

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[14]The Wheeler opinion also observes that Justice White is the author of both Swain and Taylor. See Wheeler, 583 P.2d at 767 n. 33.

likewise based their decision on local law. See Commonwealth v. Soares, supra; State v. Neil, 457 So.2d 481, 486 (Fla. 1984). See also State v. Crespin, 612 P.2d 716, 718 (N.M. Ct. App. 1980)(construing New Mexico Constitution).[15]

However, the Swain approach remains the overwhelming majority rule among the states. Justice Marshall, dissenting from the denial of certiorari in Gilliard v. Mississippi, 104 S.Ct. 40, 43 (1983), observed:

> "To my knowledge, in the five years since Wheeler and Soares, not a single state supreme court has imposed state constitutional limits on peremptory challenges. In fact, over the same period, at least 19

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[15]Crespin's actual holding is that the prosecution's peremptory challenge of the sole black on the venire did not authorize the trial court to require the prosecutor to state a reason for the challenge, and such a case "is controlled by both the analysis and the concern raised in Swain," although the opinion goes on to say that if an unspecified greater number of challenges had been so utilized, the "Wheeler-Soares rationale" would apply by virtue of the New Mexico Constitution. 612 P.2d at 717, 718.

> jurisdictions have considered the issue and, following Swain, reaffirmed their view that the exclusion of Negroes by peremptory challenges is constitutional in the absence of evidence of systematic exclusion." (Footnotes omitted.)[16]

Moreover, when Swain was decided the cross-section principle already had long been established, and was indisputably applicable to the states at least as it pertained to the

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[16] The state decisions which have considered and rejected Wheeler and Soares are cited in footnote 3 to Justice Marshall's dissent. 104 S.Ct. at 43 n. 3. See also cases cited in State v. Neil, 457 So.2d 481, 484 n. 3 (Fla. 1984), and in People v. Williams, 97 Ill.2d 252, 454 N.E.2d 220, 233 (1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 2364 (1984). For earlier decisions see Annot., 79 A.L.R.3d 14 (1977). Since Justice Marshall wrote, Florida has switched from anti- to pro-Wheeler-Soares, see State v. Neil, supra, Maryland can likely be considered as in the undecided, rather than the anti-Wheeler-Soares, faction, see Lawrence v. State, 457 A.2d 1127, 1133 (Md. 1983), and Indiana has joined the ranks of those rejecting Wheeler-Soares. See Hobson v. State, 471 N.E.2d 281, 285-86 (Ind. 1984). Nevertheless, Justice Marshall's statement remains essentially correct: the overwhelming weight of authority in the states rejects Wheeler and Soares. Moreover, this rejection is spread throughout all the major geographic regions of our nation.

Swain context, namely, a black challenging his conviction on the ground that the jury selection procedures tended to reduce the presence of blacks in the venire and on the jury below the level of a representative cross-section. Thus, Justice White stated for the Court in Taylor:

> "A unanimous Court stated in Smith v. Texas, 311 U.S. 128, 130, 61 S.Ct. 164, 165, 85 L.Ed. 84 (1940), that '[i]t is part of the established tradition in the use of juries as instruments of public justice that the jury be a body truly representative of the community.' To exclude racial groups from jury service was said to be 'at war with our basic concepts of a democratic society and a representative government.' A state jury system that resulted in systematic exclusion of Negroes as jurors was therefore held to violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
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> "...In Brown v. Allen, 344 U.S. 443, 474, 73 S.Ct. 397, 416, 97 L.Ed. 469 (1953), the Court declared that '[o]ur duty to protect the federal constitutional rights of all does not mean we must or should impose on states our conception of the proper source of jury lists, so long as the source reasonably reflects a

cross-section of the population suitable in character and intelligence for that civic duty.'

"....

"The unmistakable import of this Court's opinions, at least since 1940, Smith v. Texas, supra, and not repudiated by intervening decisions, is that the selection of a petit jury from a representative cross section of the community is an essential component of the Sixth Amendment right to a jury trial." 95 S.Ct. at 696-97.[17]

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[17]This is not to say that application of the sixth amendment to the states added nothing to the jury selection question. Rather Rather, what it added is not material in the Swain context. For example, the sixth amendment allows one not a member of the underrepresented class to complain, Taylor, while this result is, or rather at least was, less clear under the equal protection clause. See Alexander v. Louisiana, 92 S.Ct. 1221, 1226 (1972); Peters v. Kiff, 92 S.Ct. 2163, 2168-69 (1972). Further, where the underrepresented group is not a racial one, the sixth amendment's protection may be stronger than that of the equal protection clause. See Duren v. Missouri, 99 S.Ct. 664 (1979); Hoyt v. Florida, 82 S.Ct. 159 (1961). but Swain involved a black defendant claiming underrepresentation of his race. Finally, under the equal protection clause the statistical case is only prima facie, and may be rebutted by a sufficiently strong showing of lack of discriminatory intent or determina-

I also observe that Swain part II is largely based on an analysis of the current and historical role of the peremptory challenge in the common law and American jury system generally. It particularly relies on federal criminal cases, such as Lewis v. United States, 13 S.Ct. 136 (1892); Pointer v. United States, 14 S.Ct. 410 (1894); Harrison v. United States, 16 S.Ct. 961 (1896); Miles v. United States, 26 L.Ed. 481 (1881); and Aldridge v. United States, 51

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tive effect, while under the sixth amendment the response to the same threshold showing must be one of "adequate justification." Duren, 99 S.Ct. at 670 n. 26. This is not material in the Swain context where the question was whether a threshold showing had been made.

It may also be noted that this Court has likewise long been sensitive to the cross-section principle. See the various opinions in Rabinowitz v. United States, 366 F.2d 34, 57-58, 77-79, 83 (5th Cir. 1966)(Rives, Jr.; Brown, J., concurring; Bell, J., dissenting in part). This has not prevented us from applying Swain to federal cases or post-1968 state habeas cases.

S.Ct. 470 (1931). The opinion likewise carefully traces the history of the use of the peremptory challenge in federal criminal trials up to 1965. Accordingly, it stands Swain on its head to suggest that it could be consistent with a holding that the sixth amendment's guarantee of "trial, by an impartial jury," or the requirement of article III, section 2, clause 3, that "trial of all [c]rimes...be by [j]ury," forbids or militates against the kind of peremptory challenge approved in Swain part II. Swain's approval of one type of racially based peremptory strike was based on the premise that the type of peremptory challenge there sustained was an integral and recognized part of such a jury trial. The equal protection clause was thought not to forbid what was so clearly authorized as a significant part of the constitutionally required jury trial.

Moreover, the cross-section principle is inapplicable to the kind of group-based peremptory challenge dealt with in Swain part II. To begin with, the cross-section cases are largely couched in terms of systematic exclusion. Further, the cross-section principle is applied to the formation of the venires, not the individual juries selected from them.[18] Thus, in Apodaca v. Oregon,

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[18]It has been suggested that Witherspoon v. Illnois, 88 S.Ct. 1770 (1968), indicates that the cross-section requirement is applied at the jury, as well as the venire, selection level. McCray v. Abrams, 750 F.2d at 1129. I am not persuaded.

To begin with, we have consistently held that in capital cases peremptory challenges may be used to exclude those who express hesitancy about imposing the death penalty but whose exclusion for cause is forbidden by Witherspoon. See Jordan v. Watkins, 681 F.2d 1067, 1070 & n. 2 (5th Cir. 1982)(citing Swain); Sonnier v. Maggio, 720 F.2d 401, 406-07, reh'g en banc denied, 723 F.2d 907 (5th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 1331 (1984)(citing Swain). See also Dobbert v. Strickland, 718 F.2d 1518, 1525 (11th Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 104 S.Ct. 3591 (1984) (same). Cf. Grigsby v. Mabry, No. 83-2113,

92 S.Ct. 1628, 1634 (1972), Justice White

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slip op. (8th Cir. Jan. 30, 1985)(en banc) (challenge for cause, but not peremptory challenge, of Witherspoon excludables violates the cross-section requirement on the guilt or innocence issue in capital case).

Justice Brennan (Justice Marshall concurring) has noted that allowing challenge for cause in a capital case where the requirements of Witherspoon have not been met violates the jury cross-section cases, stating: "Though these cases involve systematic exclusion from the jury pool and not from a particular jury, death-qualification is the functional equivalent of exclusion from the pool. the prosecution has unlimited ability to challenge prospective jurors for cause and uses the challenges to remove all members of an identifiable segment of the community from the pool." Wainwright v. Witt, 105 S.Ct. 844, 870 n. 10 (1985)(dissenting opinion) (emphasis added). Obviously, these remarks are inapplicable to peremptory challenges.

Further, where a particular ground of challenge for cause (such as opposition to the death penalty) is recognized by state law, this has an inherently systematic effect not present in the peremptory challenge exercised on an individual case basis (i.e., of the Swain part II variety).

Moreover, Witherspoon's reliance on the cross-section approach has been deemphasized, while the broad discretion afforded juries in death penalty cases at that time has been seen as a particularly important factor in Witherspoon.

stated:

> "All that the Constitution forbids, however, is systematic exclusion of identifiable segments of the community from jury panels and from the juries ultimately drawn from those panels; a defendant may not, for example, challenge the makeup of a jury merely because no members of his race are on the jury, but must prove that his race has been systematically excluded. See Swain v. Alabama, 380 U.S. 202, 208-209, 85 S.Ct. 824, 829, 13 L.Ed.2d 759 (1965)...." (Emphasis added.)

See Wainwright v. Witt, 105 S.Ct. at 851, 852 n. 5. And, obviously, the result in Witherspoon and succeeding cases has been heavily influenced by the uniqueness of the death penalty.

Finally, Witherspoon and its progeny have recognized that the exclusion of "Witherspoon-excludables" is acceptable, though obviously that has adverse "cross-sectional" effects. See Lockett v. Ohio, 98 S.Ct. 2954, 2960 (1978); Wainwright v. Witt, supra. Except for Grigsby, every appellate decision has held that this is so even as to the guilt or innocence stage. See Lockett, supra; Smith v. Balkcom, 660 F.2d 573, 578-83 (1981), modified in other respects, reh'g en banc denied, 671 F.2d 858 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 103 S.Ct. 181 (1982); Spinkellink v. Wainwright, 578 F.2d 582, 592, 594-95 (5th Cir. 1978), cert. denied, 99 S.Ct. 2064 (1979); Sonnier, 720 F.2d at 407-08; Keeten v. Garrison, 742 F.2d 129, 133-34 (4th Cir. 1984).

Similarly, in Taylor, Justice White stated for the Court:

> "If the fair-cross-section rule is to govern the selection of juries, as we have concluded it must, women cannot be systematically excluded from jury panels from which petit juries are drawn.
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> "....
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> "It should also be emphasized that in holding that petit juries must be drawn from a source fairly representative of the community we impose no requirement that petit juries actually chosen must mirror the community and reflect the various distinctive groups in the population. Defendants are not entitled to a jury of any particular composition...but the jury wheels, pools of names, panels, or venires from which juries are drawn must not systematically exclude distinctive groups in the community and thereby fail to be reasonably representative thereof." 95 S.Ct. 692 at 699, 702 (emphasis added).

And, in Duren v. Missouri, 99 S.Ct. 6664 (1979), Justice White again speaking for the Court:

> "In order to ascertain a prima facie violation of the fair-cross-section

requirement, the defendant must show (1) that the group alleged to be excluded is a 'distinctive' group in the community; (2) that the representation of this group in venires from which juries are selected is not fair and reasonable in the relation to the number of such persons in the community; and (3) that this underrepresentation is due to systematic exclusion of the group in the jury-selection process.

"....

"Finally, in order to establish a prima facie case, it was necessary for petitioner to show that the underrepresentation of women, generally and on his venire, was due to their systematic exclusion in the jury-selection process." Id. at 668-69 (emphasis added).

See also Rabinowitz v. United States, 366 F.2d 34, 59 (5th Cir. 1966)("The focus of the law is on the list from which the jury is drawn and not on the composition of a particular jury....").

Plainly, then, the cross-section theory does not speak to the use of peremptory challenges of the Swain part II variety.

They are not systematic, and they do not relate to the formation of the venires.

The argument has been made that restricting the cross-section requirement to the venire selection process is meaningless, because juries decide cases while venires decide nothing. See McCray, 350 F.2d at 1128. This contention, however, ignores the vast difference in function and purpose between selection for a venire and selection for a jury. Exclusion from the venire summons process implies that the government (usually the legislative or judicial branch) in its capacity as the neutral structurer of the overall justice system has generally determined that those excluded are unfit to try any case. Exercise of the peremptory challenge, by contrast, represents the discrete decision, made by one of two or more opposed litigants in the trial phase of our adversary system of justice, that the

challenged venireperson will be more unfavorable to that litigant in that particular case than the others on the same venire.

Thus, excluding a particular cognizable group from all venire pools is stigmatizing and discriminatory in several interrelated ways that the peremptory challenge is not. The former singles out the excluded group, while individuals of all groups are equally subject to the peremptory challenge on any basis, including their group affiliation. Further, venire-pool exclusion bespeaks a priori across-the-board total unfitness, while peremptory-strike exclusion merely suggests potential partiality in a particular isolated case. Exclusion from venires focuses on the inherent attributes of the excluded group and infers its inferiority, but the peremptory does not. To suggest that a particular race is unfit to judge in any

case necessarily is racially insulting. To suggest that each race may have its own special concerns, or even may tend to favor its own, is not. For instance, it says nothing adverse, or even truly racial, about blacks to infer that they may be more likely to have greater antipathy to the Ku Klux Klan than whites. Finally, the role played by the decision maker is significant. If the neutral structurer of the system excludes a cognizable group, the exclusion necessarily represents the official judgment of society that the group is generally inferior. Under the adversary framework of a trial, however, society is neutral; neither side is favored, neither speaks for society, each speaks only for itself. To be peremptorily challenged by one side or the other hence bespeaks a judgment which is neither societal nor even normative, but merely reflects the tactical determination of one contesting litigant's

counsel that the challenged person is, under the discrete facts of that particular case, more likely to favor the other side, which in the ultimate judgment of society may or may not prove to be the side of virtue and right.

Moreover, the operative effects of the peremptory challenge cannot be equated to those of the general exclusion from venire pools. Assuming the prosecution uses its peremptories for the purpose of prevailing in the particular case, and does so intelligently, the jury drawn from a venire representative of all cognizable groups, but from which one group has been eliminated by prosecution group-based peremptory challenges, generally is more likely to be acquittal prone than a jury drawn from an otherwise similar venire that excludes any members of that same group. In the latter instance, unilke the former, the prosecution could eliminate the most acquittal prone of

the remaining groups by using peremptory challenges it otherwise would have used to eliminate the group in question. Therefore, inclusion of a group in the venire is not "meaningless" to the end result simply because that group may be eliminated from the trial jury by peremptory challenge. Further, the general exclusion from venire pools allows the prosecutor (and the potential defendant as well) greater ability to predict, in advance of the decision to prosecute, the composition of the jury which will try the case. If no cognizable group is excluded from the venire formation process, the decision to prosecute (or to commit an offense) normally cannot be made with assurance that any give group will not be so represented on the particular venire from which the trial jury will be drawn that it cannot be eliminated by peremptory challenges (or can be eliminated only at unacceptable

cost in terms of other peremptories foregone). The prosecution in this case, for example, could not have known in advance that the twenty-eight venirepersons here would not have included nine instead of six blacks or six blacks and three others whom the prosecution would have felt it imperative to peremptorily strike.

It is, of course, true that if peremptory challenges on the basis of group affiliation as addressed in Swain part II were to be prohibited, there might be some indeterminable increase in the number of trial juries whose composition more closely mirrored the community's mixture of all "cognizable" groups. But see, note 29, infra, and accompanying text. However, such mirroring at the actual trial-jury level is not the "be all and end all" of the jury system as we know and have known it. If it were, we would take steps to more nearly

ensure that the composition of each individual jury roughly mirrored the community's group mixture with respect, say, to male and female, "Anglo," "Hispanic," and

"Black."[19] Obviously, however, any such approach is completely contrary to the jury

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[19]For example, those summoned for the venire could be classified by these groupings, summonsing to continue until a sufficient number in each group were achieved, with any excess in particular groupings being excused; each jury would be filled by drawing on these groups, with no more than the appropriate number drawn from each; a venireperson removed by challenge would be replaced by one from the same group. Thus, each jury in a given community might be equally divided by gender, and, say, one sixth Black, one third Hispanic, and one half Anglo. Proportions not divisible by the number of jurors might be adjusted for by a method such as the following: if Blacks were twenty percent, Anglos forty-seven percent, and Hispanics thirty-three percent of the community, then juries would alternately be four Hispanic - three Black - five Anglo, and four Hispanic - two Black - six Anglo.

We do not even go so far as to do all we practically can to ensure that each particular venire mirrors the community's mixture of such major "cognizable" groups, as the initial step in the above example would tend to accomplish. Indeed, Duren v. Missouri, supra, indicates that the sixth amendment's cross-section requirement, even as applied to the presently conventional method of selecting venires, can be diluted on a systematic basis provided only that "a significant state interest be manifestly and primarily advanced" thereby. 99 S.Ct. at 670.

system as we understand and have employed it throughout our history. And, as reflected above, the "cross-section" cases are not to the contrary. Indeed, the Supreme Court's decisions that the sixth amendment requires neither juries larger than six nor unanimous verdicts, despite the general practice and long history of a unanimous jury of twelve, Williams v. Florida, 90 S.Ct. 1893, 1898-1900 (1970); Johnson v. Louisiana, 92 S.Ct. 1620, 1623, 1625 (1972)(due process); Apodaca v. Oregon, 92 S.Ct. 1628, 1634 (1972), necessarily bespeak the limited strength of the cross-section principle as applied even to the systematic structuring of the trial jury. Juries of six are obviously much less likely to have minority representation than juries of twelve, and unanimity obviously increases the power of the minority. The Court was plainly aware of these considerations. See Williams, 90 S.Ct. at

1906 & nn. 46-47. This is not to say that cross-section considerations were deemed irrelevant to such systematic structuring, but merely that they were not controlling. In respect to the five-person Georgia jury system, the Court in Ballew v. Georgia, 98 S.Ct. 1029, 1040 (1978), stated that "the question of representation does constitute one factor of several that, when combined, create a problem of constitutional significance under the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments." Nevertheless, Ballew refused to retreat from Williams, despite recognition that ten-percent minorities would be wholly without "representation" in over half of six-person juries, as contrasted to less than thirty percent of twelve-person juries. Ballew, 98 S.Ct. at 1037.

That factors other than those relating to the cross-section principle are important to the concept of the criminal jury is

likewise reflected by the passage in Baldwin v. New York, 90 S.Ct. 1886, 1890 (1970), which describes "the primary purpose of the jury" as follows:

> "[T]he jury interposes between the accused and his accuser the judgment of laymen who are less tutored perhaps than a judge or panel of judges, but who at the same time are less likely to function or appear as but another arm of the Government that has proceeded against him." (Footnote omitted.)

Similarly, Apodaca states:

> "[T]he purpose of trial by jury is to prevent oppression by the Government by providing a 'safeguard against the corrupt or overzealous prosecutor and against the complaint, biased or eccentric judge.' Duncan v. Louisiana, 391 U.S., at 156, 88 S.Ct., at 1451. 'Given this purpose, the essential feature of a jury obviously lies in the interposition between the accused and his accuser of the commonsense jugment of a gruop of layment...' Williams v. Florida, supra, 399 U.S., at 100, 90 S.Ct., at 1906." 92 S.Ct. at 1632-33.

The United States Constitution does not speak of a "cross section" or "representative" or similarly described jury.

Of course, this does not mean that our jury system does not embrace cross-section values, but it does mean that such values are embraced in the context of, and are limited by, the overall concept of trial by jury. That concept, as Swain makes clear, includes peremptory challenges, both for individual and group characteristics, when made for the purposes of the particular case being tried. This is likewise evident from Williams, where Justice White, responding to the argument that the jury of six impermissibly diluted community cross-section representation, observed:

> "Even the 12-man jury cannot insure representation of every distinct voice in the community, particularly given the use of the peremptory challenge." Williams, 90 S.Ct. at 1907 (emphasis added).

The legislative history of the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968 also reflects that the value of the cross-section

principle in the jury system is not so unlimited and overriding as to warrant restriction of the traditional scope of the peremptory challenge. Pub. L. No. 90-274, §101, 82 Stat. 54, 28 U.S.C. §1861 et seq. It is to be noted that Justice White, in Taylor, refers to this legislation as embodying a proper recognition and implementation of the principle "that the requirement of a jury's being chosen from a fair cross section of the community is fundamental to the American system of justice." 95 S.Ct. at 697. The Taylor opinion refers to the legislative history of this Act, including the House and Senate Committee Reports. Id. at 697 nn. 7-8. When Congress considered this legislation it was obviously aware of Swain, decided only three years earlier. The following from the House Committee Report is hence particularly significant:

"The act guarantees only that the jury shall be 'selected at random from a fair cross section of the community.' It does not require that at any stage beyond the initial source list the selection process shall produce groups that accurately mirror community makeup. Thus, no challenge lies on that basis.

"....

"...It should be noted, however, that the bill does not change the method of challenging jurors at voir dire. In particular, the bill leaves undisturbed the right of a litigant to exercise his peremptory challenges to eliminate jurors for purely subjective reasons." H.R. Rep. No. 1076, 90th Cong., 2d Sess., reprinted in 1968 U.S. Code Cong. & Ad. News 1792, 1794-95 (emphasis added).

The jury required by the sixth amendment must be "impartial." This is a requirement applicable to each particular, individual jury, in each discrete case. It does not, however, imply that a party is entitled to any representative of his or her

"group" on the jury,[20] even where that group is a significant one in the community where the trial takes place and from which the venire is drawn. Taylor, 95 S.Ct. at 702 ("[N]o requirement that petit juries actually chosen must...reflect the various distinctive groups in the population. Defendants are not entitled to a jury of any particular composition....").

What the impartiality requirement does imply is a jury each of whose members is willing and able to decide the case solely on the basis of the evidence introduced at trial and the instructions of the court. See Patton v. Yount, 104 S.Ct. 2885, 2892 n. 12 (1984)("The constitutional standard [is] that a juror is impartial only if he can lay aside his opinion and render a verdict based

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[20]This country has not utilized anything analogous to the ancient common-law rule that an alien was entitled to a jury composed half of aliens and half of citizens. See United States v. Wood, 57 S.Ct. 177, 185 (1936).

on the evidence presented in court....").
While normally only demonstrated and almost complete inability to put aside extraneous considerations requires that a challenge for cause be sustained, and it is often "scarcely possible to avoid" jurors "whose minds are entirely uninfluenced by opinions previously formed," nevertheless the ideal remains jurors who will "stand perfectly indifferent between the parties" and "who fe[el] no bias either way." Queen v. Hepburn, 7 Cranch 290, 297-98, 3 L.Ed. 348, 350 (1813). Hence, challenge for cause may properly be sustained in instances where such action is not absolutely required. Id. In this connection, it is also recognized that bias--i.e., lack of impartiality in the referenced sense--may arise because of a group characteristic, such as race or religion or other "cognizable" grouping. See, e.g., Aldridge v. United States, 51

S.Ct. 470, 472-73 & nn. 1-3 (1930);[21] Miles v. United States, 26 L.Ed. 481 (1883); Queen v. Hepburn, supra; Ham v. South Carolina, 93

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[21]While Aldridge formally involved the issue of the defendant's race, not that of the jurors, it is unlikely that the question of prejudice against blacks--as in issue there--would arise with respect to a black juror. Indeed, the Court noted that "the members of the jury were white." 51 S.Ct. at 471. Moreover, in support of its holding, Aldridge expressly relied on a case where the juror's group affiliation--membership in the Know-Nothing Party--was at issue. Id. at 472-73.

S.Ct. 848, 850-51 (1973).[22] Though excusing jurors for such bias may reduce the cross sectionalization of the jury, we have recognized that "[a] cross-section of the fair and impartial is more desirable than a fair cross-section of the prejudiced and biased." Smith v. Balkcom, 660 F.2d 573, 583 (1981), modified in other respects, reh'g en

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[22]Though extensions of Ham have been rejected in Ristaino v. Ross, 96 S.Ct. 1017, 1020 (1976), and Rosales-Lopez v. United States, 101 S.Ct. 1629, 1635 (1981), these later decisions nonetheless recognize the not infrequent desirability--though less often the inflexible absolute necessity--of inquiry into possible group prejudice of jurors. See Ristaino at 1022 n. 9 ("wiser course generally" is to inquire); Rosales-Lopez at 1636-37 (approving inquiry into prejudice against aliens). A caveat to the desirability of such an inquiry expressed in the concurring opinion of Justice Rehnquist, joined by the Chief Justice, in Rosales-Lopez is the concern that it "could well exacerbate whatever prejudice might exist without substantially aiding in exposing it." 101 S.Ct. at 1638. The three Rosales-Lopez dissenters took a broader view of the necessity for inquiry into the possible group prejudice of jurors. Id. at 1638-41.

banc denied, 671 F.2d 858 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 103 S.Ct. 181 (1982).

Plainly, however, the challenge for cause is an inadequate tool for the elimination of bias. To begin with, bias exists along a continuum of strength or degree; its place on that continuum will often be impossible to gauge, and will frequently depend on the circumstances of a particular case. It is impractical--and undesirable--to lay down the sort of general rule implicit in the concept of challenge for cause for any but the clearest and strongest cases. This does not, however, mean that bias of a "lesser" kind has no tendency to undesirably inhibit the juror in the task of deciding the case solely on the evidence and the court's charge. Cf. Queen v. Hepburn, supra. It is universally recognized that the peremptory challenge fills an important function in this regard.

Moreover, even if the juror has a bias which would give rise to a proper challenge for cause, this fact may not be demonstrable. This was recognized in Swain, 85 S.Ct. at 836, as well as in a host of other decisions. See, e.g., Hayes v. Missouri, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351 (1887). As the New York Court of Appeals stated in People v. McCray, 443 N.E.2d 915, 918 (N.Y. 1982), cert. denied, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983):

> "First, jurors may be reluctant to admit their prejudices before spectators or others present in the courtroom during the voir dire. Second, certain prospective jurors may evade full disclosure of their prejudices in an effort to avoid being struck from the jury. Finally, other prospective jurors may simply be unaware of the existence of certain biases or prejudices they may harbor."

Further, the availability of the peremptory protectors the challenge for cause, by protecting against juror hostility resulting from the inquiry. Swain, 85 S.Ct. at 836;

Lewis v. United States, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892). As expressed in People v. McCray:

> "Pointed questions directed at an area as sensitive as a potential juror's racial, religious or sexual biases may, even where such biases do not exist, alienate a juror against counsel and his position." 443 N.E.2d at 918.[23]

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[23]While conduct of voir dire by the judge may reduce the potential for hostility, it will not remove it. See Commonwealth v. Sanders, 421 N.E.2d 436, 439 (Mass. 1981)(questioning along this line "'may activiate latent racial bias in certain prospective jurors or may insult others without uncovering evidence of bias in hard-core bigots who refuse to acknowledge their prejudice'"); Rosales-Lopez v. United States, 101 S.Ct. 1629, 1638 (1981) (Rehnquist, J., concurring; joined by Chief Justice Burger)("could well exacerbate whatever prejudice might exist without substantially aiding in exposing it").

Moreover, it is to be doubted that questioning by the court will be as effective in an area such as this as questioning by counsel. Cf. People v. McCray, 443 N.E.2d at 918:

> "The inadequacy of relying upon voir dire to filter out all potential biases based upon group affinity is exacerbated by the reluctance of some Trial Judges to permit extensive, time-consuming voir dire examination."

Thus, the peremptory challenge plays an important role in the parties' quest for the "impartial" jury--the jury of the sixth amendment, composed of those who are willing and able to decide the case solely on the evidence and the law. As Swain states:

> "The function of the challenge is not only to eliminate extremes of partiality on both sides, but to assure the parties that the jurors before whom they try the case will decide on the basis of the evidence placed before them, and not otherwise." 85 S.Ct. at 835.

See also Lewis, 13 S. Ct. at 138 ("essential to the fairness of trial by jury"); Hayes, 7 S.Ct. at 351 ("to secure the impartiality of jurors"); Singer v. United States, 85 S.Ct. 783, 790 (1965)("likely to produce a fair result"). The extent to which a juror's circumstances may affect his impartiality depends on the likelihood of the inference of bias and the strength of the bias inferred, under the facts of a particular trial, but

not, per se, on whether the source of the potential bias is affiliation with a "cognizable" group as distinguished from all other possible sources. The potential for bias of Catholic against Ku Klux Klan member is not inevitably less in every trial than that of one with long hair[24] against the police.

It has been argued that one party's peremptories may exclude all of a minority group, while the other's peremptories will be insufficient to exclude the majority, with resulting unfairness to the minority party. See Soares, 387 N.E.2d at 516. To the extent this reasoning implies that the resulting jury is actually unfair to the minority party, any such unfairness is no greater--and in some circumstances is likely to be less,

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[24]Wheeler suggests that length of hair is an individual characteristic on the basis of which peremptory challenge may be properly exercised. 583 P.2d at 760.

for the reasons previously noted--than that which might exist where the lack of minority representation results from venire composition due to chance, from the paucity of minority residents in the community, from challenge for cause, or from peremptory challenge for "individual" reasons. To the extent that the argument rests on analogy to the cross-section cases, either in their equal protection or in their sixth amendment rationales, it does not take into account the previously noted differences between the venire-formation and peremptory-challenge processes.

As a justification for prohibiting all peremptory challenges based on "cognizable" group affiliation, the "elimination of the minority" rationale is also subject to other objections. "Cognizable" group classifications are not limited to those of minority and majority, but rather include

classifications such as gender, national ancestry, religion and economic status, respecting which the divisions in a given community may be approximately equal. Nor has it been suggested that group-based peremptories are permissible against majorities but not minorities.[25] Moreover, the prohibition presumably would extend to peremptories based on minority-group affiliation even where that minority group, either because of its chance "overrepresentation" on the particular venire or some other reason, would not be wholly eliminated from the panel or reduced significantly below its proportion in the

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[25]There is no reason to assume that group-based peremptory challenges are only utilized where the challenged group can be wholly eliminated or proportionately significantly reduced. For example, in a given trial setting, group-based considerations, though present and decisive as to one or two challenges, may not be decisive as to any others, where particular "individual" characteristics may be more significant.

community.[26] Indeed, the minority might

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[26]It may be argued that the minority is "entitled" to its chance "overrepresentation" on the jury, just as it is entitled to its chance "overrepresentation" on the venire. This, however, is an argument for a process, not for a result in a given case. As an argument for a process, it fails to take into account the previously noted differences between the venire-formation and the peremptory-strike processes.

not be reduced below its proportion on the venire.[27]

Finally, the "elimination of the minority" argument implicitly assumes that the minority and majority are equally homogeneous and stand at opposite poles from one another with respect to their attitudes

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[27]If a twenty-eight-person venire panel has ten "minority" members (about thirty-six percent of the panel) the six prosecution peremptory challenges allowed by Fed.R.Crim.P. 24(b) used against minority members will leave four of the minority. If the defense uses its ten peremptories against the majority, the resulting jury will be thirty-three percent minority, approximately the same as the panel.

The presence of those on the panel with "individually" based attitudes one way or the other may produce a similar result. If there are six of the minority on the twenty-eight-person panel, the prosecution may use three of its peremptories on majority members based on "individual" characteristics, and its remaining three peremptories on minority members based on their group affiliation. See note 25, supra. If the defense uses its ten peremptories against members of the majority, the resulting jury will have a slightly higher minority percentage (three of twelve) than did the panel (six of twenty-eight).

in a given case. The argument assumes that if the prosecution strikes minority group members on the basis of their group affiliation, then majority group members inevitably must be as likely to be as conviction prone as the minority group members are acquittal prone. However, this is not necessarily so. To the contrary, as applied to a given situation the feelings among any one group may be strong and nearly unanimous, while among another group there

may be substantially more diversity and less intensity of attitude.[28]

With respect to the last-mentioned consideration, a somewhat analogous point is made in Note, Peremptory Challenges and the Meaning of Jury Representation, 89 Yale L.J. 1177 (1980). This student note convincingly argues that prosecution group-based exercise of peremptories will tend to distort trial

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[28]For example, in a given community the attitudes of blacks toward the Ku Klux Klan may well be nearly unanimous and strongly adverse, while the attitudes of whites may well be much more diverse and generally less intense across the spectrum.

Again, an individual who is prominent in the local black community, as appellant Leslie apparently was, may well enjoy a generally favorable reputation among, or have potential for influence over, blacks of that area, but may have no reputation whatever among, or potential influence over, any significant portion of the whites. While voir dire might disclose some of this, nevertheless some of the venire might not realize until later that this was the man they had previously heard favorably about, or might be reluctant to speak out, or would be more susceptible to a neighbor's chance comments during trial or the like.

juries away from the mean of the community's relevant attitudes only when such attitudes are asymmetrically distributed about the community mean and the challenged group comprises an acquittal extreme more distant from the mean than the conviction extreme. In other situations, the prosecution's use of group-based peremptories will enhance the tendency of the trial jury to reflect the mean of community attitudes, while in still others it will have no effect one way or the other on that tendency.[29] Significantly,

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[29]Note, Peremptory Challenges and the Meaning of Jury Representation, 89 Yale L.J. 1177 (1980):

> "Suppose that the social distribution, correctly reproduced on the venire, is asymmetrical about the mean--that the extremes in favor of acquittal are farther away from the mean than the extremes in favor of conviction. Suppose further that the acquittal extreme is occupied by members of some subgroup. In this case, the normal operation of the peremptory will have a disproportion-

"[t]here is currently no empirical evidence

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ate impact on members of that subgroup. More importantly, it will distort the jury's mean in favor of conviction, because the prosecution's removal of subgroup members will not be fully balanced by the defense's peremptory elimination of pro-conviction jurors....

"On the other hand, the social distribution might be symmetrical about the mean, with extremes on both sides equally far away. If members of a subgroup are again supposed to occupy one of the extremes, the disproportionate removal of that subgroup will have absolutely no effect on the jury's mean impact. The effect of these removals would be fully offset by the removal of jurors at the other extreme. In such a case, a rule protecting subgroups by limiting the peremptory would shift the jury's mean away from that of society, toward the extreme at which the protected group clustered. Under these circumstances, limiting the peremptory would cause the jury to be unrepresentative....Only if that subgroup is at an extreme of an asymmetrical social distribution will limiting the peremptory protect representation of the community. Otherwise, such a limitation would distort the community mean.

"Numerous other distributions of

as to which distribution [of attitudes] exists in any given community for any range of cases." Id. at 1196.

I conclude that the group-based peremptory challenge of the kind considered in Swain part II is constitutional, not only under the equal protection clause but under the sixth amendment as well. This conclusion

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verdict impact in society can be imagined. In those that are symmetrical but that do not have a subgroup clustered at one end, both the normal and limited peremptory will have no systematic effect on the jury's mean. In those that are asymmetrical but that have subgroups distributed evenly throughout, both the normal and limited peremptory will distort the jury mean toward the nearer extreme. There is currently no empirical evidence as to which distribution exists in any given community for any range of cases. In the absence of knowledge as to the actual distribution for the geographic community from which a jury is drawn, neither the normal nor the limited peremptory has a predictable, systematic effect on the jury's mean verdict impact as compared to that of society." Id. at 1193-96 (footnotes omitted).

is premised on the understanding that such challenges do not run counter to, but rather form a recognized part of, the mix of values inherent in the concept of trial by jury as provided for in the sixth amendment and article III, section 2, clause 3.

Supervisory Power

I recognize, of course, that the majority has not rested its decision on constitutional grounds, but rather on our supervisory power. With all respect, this is merely the same goods under a different label. The same considerations that support or oppose the constitutional challenge equally support or oppose the employment of the supervisory power. "The values assigned to the competing interests do not change because a court has elected to analyze the question under the supervisory power instead of the" sixth amendment. United States v. Payner, 100 S.Ct. 2439, 2446-47 (1980). Moreover,

the numerous decisions that have left intact the prosecution's and defense's unfettered use of peremptory challenges for purposes of the particular case being tried were not decided on the theory that although racially based challenges are undesirable or even illegal they nevertheless are not so egregious as to be unconstitutional.[30] Rather, they have been sustained because such unfettered use, including consideration of group affiliation, is an essential element of the peremptory challenge itself and has consistently been recognized as a proper,

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[30] See United States v. Hasting, 103 S.Ct. 1974, 1978-79 (1983):

> "The purposes underlying use of the supervisory powers are threefold: to implement a remedy for violation of recognized rights [citations omitted]; to preserve judicial integrity by ensuring that a conviction rests on appropriate considerations validly before the jury [citations omitted]; and finally, as a remedy designed to deter illegal conduct [citation omitted]."

important and integral part of trial by jury. Hence the majority's decision here in essence "amounts to a substitution of individual judgment for the controlling decisions" of the Supreme Court and the prior panels of this Court. See Payner, 100 S.Ct. at 2447.

The majority has held that "the district court must exercise its supervisory authority to determine whether the prosecutor has considered the veniremen's race in employing his peremptory challenges" (typewritten op. at 13). But, as heretofore pointed out, Swain and related cases clearly recognize that there is nothing inappropriate in considering race when the peremptory is exercised for purposes of the specific case being tried. In fact, the same authorities demonstrate that such an inquiry by the court is inappropriate. We are, then, condemning what has been approved and directing what has been forbidden.

To revert to Swain part II, Justice White describes the peremptory challenge as "'an arbitrary and capricious right...[that] must be exercised with full freedom, or it fails of its full purpose.'" 85 S.Ct at 835 (quoting Lewis, 13 S.Ct. at 139). The opinion continues with this significant statement:

> "The essential nature of the peremptory challenge is that it is one exercised without a reason stated, without inquiry and without being subject to the court's control." 85 S.Ct. at 836 (emphasis added).

Swain also states that to subject such challenges to the kind of equal protection scrutiny that the majority here requires of the district court

> "...would entail a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge. The challenge, pro tanto, would no longer be peremptory, each and every challenge being open to examination, either at the time of the challenge or at a hearing afterwards. The prosecutor's judgment underlying each challenge would be subject to scrutiny for

reasonableness and sincerity." Id. at 836-37 (emphasis added).

Finally, Swain makes clear that to "require[] an examination of the prosecutor's reasons for the exercise of his challenges in any given case," even where "all Negroes were removed from the jury...because they were Negroes," is to "establish a rule wholly at odds with the peremptory challenge system as we know it." Id. at 837 (emphasis added).

The Swain dissent similarly eschewed any rule under which "a prosecutor's motives are subject to question or judicial inquiry when he excludes Negroes or any other group from sitting on a jury in a particular case. Only where systematic exclusion has been shown, would the State be called upon to justify its use of peremptories...." Id. at 849.

Decisions of this Court are in accord. See Davis v. United States, 374 F.2d at 5

("The essential nature of the peremptory challenge is that it is one exercised without a reason stated, without inquiry and without being subject to the Court's control."); United States v. Pearson, 448 F.2d at 1216 (questioning of prosecutor as to his reasons for exercising peremptories "would be inconsistent with the peremptory challenge system"); United States v. Carlton, 456 F.2d at 208 ("The subjective thought process of the prosecutor in deciding which prospective jurors to strike in a given case is beyond inquiry of the Court, trial or appellate...."). Surely in these cases, and in the many other direct appeals of federal criminal convictions where we have applied Swain, we were aware of our supervisory power. Indeed, in Carlton we specifically cited Hall v. Untied States, 168 F.2d 161 (D.C. Cir.), cert. denied, 68 S.Ct. 1509 (1948), in support of our Swain holding, and

were presumably aware of the Hall dissent's express reliance on the supervisory power. Carlton, 456 F.2d at 208.

What the majority has directed, then, is what Swain and our prior decision have said no court can do. The prosecution has been entitled to peremptory challenges, or their equivalent, continuously since the formation of our nation, as well as for centuries prior thereto under the common law. This right has had express statutory recognition continuously from 1865 until its inclusion in Rule 24(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure in 1944, where to this date it has remained unchanged in any relevant particular.[31] As previously noted, Congress in 1968, though obviously

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[31]These "pre-verdict" rules must be submitted to Congress during a regular session and are not effective until ninety days after such submission. 18 U.S.C. §3771. This contrasts with "post-verdict" rules which need not be so submitted. Id. §3772.

well aware of Swain and its application in the federal courts, considered but elected "not [to] change the method of challenging jurors" and "in particular" to "leave[] undisturbed the right of a litigant to exercise his peremptory challenges." H.R. Rep. No. 1076, 90th Cong., 2d Sess., supra. Nevertheless, the majority orders a procedure which, as characterized in Swain, "entail[s] a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge" and is directly contrary to its "essential nature," and "wholly at odds with the peremptory challenge system." Surely the supervisory power of this panel does not extend to thus riding roughshod over the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, the intent of Congress, the rights of the executive, the prior decisions of this Court and of the Supreme Court, and over half a millennium of settled doctrine.[32]

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[32]Nothing cited by the majority supports its

But the majority has done more than

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decree, which can only be described as an "unprecedented assumption of power." See United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240, 250 (2d Cir. 1977).

Nor do any of the three purposes for the exercise of supervisory power stated in the quotation from United States v. Hasting, 103 S.Ct. 1974 (1983), set out in note 30, supra, afford justification for the majority's ruling.

The majority places major reliance on Thiel v. Southern Pac. Co., 66 S.Ct. 984 (1946), and Ballard v. United States, 67 S.Ct. 261 (1946). Neither of these cases fairly supports the present result. Most important, Ballard, expressly, and Thiel, implicitly, rest on the proposition that the practices there condemned constituted "a departure from the statutory scheme." Ballard, 67 S.Ct. at 265 (also at 264). See also Thiel, 66 S.Ct. at 987 (nothing in "federal or state law" justifies the condemned practice). Here the very opposite is the case: what we decree is "a radical change" from the "essential nature" of a right expressly authorized by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, and impliedly authorized by Congress, and is "wholly at odds" therewith. Further, Ballard and Thiel are supported by "[t]he American tradition of trial by jury." Thiel, 66 S.Ct. at 985; Ballard, 67 S.Ct. at 263. Here the majority flies directly in the face of that tradition. Finally, Thiel and Ballard involved judicial supervision of the judiciary--the Supreme Court supervising the

eviscerate the prosecution's right of

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lower federal court-formulated venire summons practice. Here, by contrast, we intrude into decisions committed by law to the executive branch, namely, against whom should peremptory strikes be exercised for the purpose of a particular case. Glasser v. United States, 62 S.Ct. 457 (1942), is inapposite for all the same reasons.

Nor can the majority properly claim much comfort from the Eighth Circuit's supervisory power decisions. They involve claims that the challenges were of the Swain part III variety, and arise out of the Eighth Circuit's "concern because of the frequency with which we have been called upon to examine the prosecutor's practices in this regard in the Western District of Missouri." United States v. Jackson, 696 F.2d 578, 592 (8th Cir. 1982), cert. denied, 103 S.Ct. 1531 (1983). See also United States States v. Greene, 626 F.2d 75, 76-77 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 101 S.Ct. 220 (1980)("[O]n several previous occasions black defendants have attacked the conduct of the prosecutor's office in the Western District of Missouri in exercising peremptory challenges against prospective black jurors."). This is made plain from the leading Eighth Circuit case on this point, United States v. Nelson, 529 F.2d 40, 43 (8th Cir.), cert. denied, 96 S.Ct. 2631 (1976), where the Court affirmed the conviction in reliance on Swain (as it has in all other such cases), but stated, "Should the prosecutors' practices...continue, we are sure that the district judges in the Western District of Missouri will take appropriate

peremptory challenge. It has also either eviscerated the defense's use of peremptories or improperly tilted the scales of justice against the prosecution. Of course, the prosecution is entitled to a fair trial and the defense is not entitled to a jury partial in its favor. Challenges are one means to this end. See Wainwright v. Witt, 105 S.Ct. 844, 851-52 (1985); Smith v. Balkcom, 660 F.2d at 579; Spinkellink v. Wainwright, 578

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action."

Finally, the decision in United States v. McDaniels, 379 F.Supp. 1243 (E.D. La. 1974), does not support the majority. There, a new trial was granted on the basis of a Swain part III claim which was supported by an analysis of the prosecution's peremptory challenges over the past two years combined with black underrepresentation on venire lists. Id. at 1248-49. This Court specifically distinguished McDaniels on that ground in United States v. McLaurin, 557 F.2d at 1077 n. 19.

Here there is not only no proof of prior practice or noncase-specific use, there is no such claim; indeed, appellant admits that "there is no pattern or practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana."

F.2d 582, 596 (5th Cir. 1978), cert. denied, 99 S.Ct. 2064 (1979). The prosecution is no less entitled to the unfettered use of its allotted peremptories than the defense. As the Supreme Court said in Hayes v. Missouri, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351 (1887), in such matters "the scales are to be evenly held" between prosecution and defense.[33] This view was

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[33]The full passage in Hayes is as follows:

> "It is to be remembered that such [juror] impartiality requires, not only freedom from any bias against the accused, but also from any prejudice against his prosecution. Between him and the state the scales are to be evenly held.
>
> "Experience has shown that one of the most effective means to free the jurybox from men unfit to be there is the exercise of the peremptory challenge. The public prosecutor may have the strongest reasons to distrust the character of a juror offered, from his habits and associations, and yet find it difficult to formulate and sustain a legal objection to him. In such cases, the peremptory challenge is a protection against his being accepted." 7. S.Ct. at 351.

reaffirmed in Swain respecting the same proffered restriction on prosecution exercise of peremptories that is at issue here. 85 S.Ct. at 835. Similarly, in Singer v. United States, 85 S.Ct. 783, 790 (1965), a unanimous Court, speaking through Chief Justice Warren, stated:

> "The Constitution recognizes an adversary system as the proper method of determining guilt, and the Government, as a litigant, has a legitimate interest in seeing that cases in which it believes a conviction is warranted are tried before the tribunal which the Constitution regards as most likely to produce a fair result. This recognition of the Government's interest as a litigant has an analogy in Rule 24(b) of the federal rules, which permits the Government to challenge jurors peremptorily."

Rule 24(b) neither by its terms nor its history makes any distinction between the prosecution and defense with respect to the reasons for which peremptory challenges may be exercised. By what right, then, do we do so?

In this connection, it is to be noted that every jurisdiction which has spoken to the matter and prohibited prosecution case-specific peremptory challenges on the basis of cognizable gruop affiliation, has held that the defense must likewise be so prohibited. See Wheeler, 583 P.2d at 765 n. 29 ("[T]he People no less than individual defendants are entitled to a trial by an impartial jury drawn from a representative cross-section....[W]hen a white defendant is charged with a crime against a black victim, the black community as a whole has a legitimate interest in participating....[T]hat interest will be defeated if the prosecutor does not have the power to thwart any defense attempt to strike all blacks...."); Soares, 387 N.E.2d at 517 n. 35 (same; also stating that prohibition would, if properly raised, apply in that case to the "attempt of the defendants...to strike

all veniremen of Italian descent"); Commonwealth v. DiMatteo, 427 N.E.2d 754 (Mass. App. Ct. 1982)(white defendant's attempted peremptory challenge of sole black on venire properly rejected where trial judge was not convinced by defense counsel's questionable nonracial explanation; the crime was apparently not interracial, but the prosecutor was black); State v. Neil, 457 So.2d at 487 ("[B]oth the state and the defense may challenge the allegedly improper use of peremptories. The state, no less than a defendant, is entitled to an impartial jury" (footnote omitted).).[34] See also United States v. Clark, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984)("It would be hard to argue that only a defendant should be allowed to challenge racially motivated peremptory challenges....[T]he prosecutor would be

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[34]The point simply is not addressed in State v. Crespin, 612 F.2d at 718. See note 15, supra.

allowed to object to the defendant's making racial peremptory challenges if the defendant could object to the prosecutor's doing so.").

Accordingly, although the majority pretermits the question whether the defense may exercise its peremptories on the basis of race (op. n. 5), its position seems likely to ultimately result in a serious weakening of what the Supreme Court has described as "'one of the most important rights secured to the accused,' Pointer v. United States, 151 U.S. 396, 408...[1894]...[t]he denial or impairment...[which] is reversible error without a showing of prejudice, Lewis v. United States, supra; Harrison v. United States, 163 U.S. 140...[1896]." Swain, 85 S.Ct. at 835. No longer, then, may the defendant "peremptorily challenge 'on his own dislike'"; no longer will we follow the rule that whatever "prevents or embarrasses the full, unrestricted exercise by the accused of

that right must be condemned." Pointer v. United States, 14 S.Ct. 410, 414 (1894).

Finally, the majority opinion leaves trial judges wholly at sea. It states that there may be justification for taking race into account in such challenges, but gives no guidance as to what kind of justification it has in mind. Nor does it address whether its rule extends to other "cognizable" groups, such as those of national origin, gender, religion or the like. See Wheeler, 583 P.2d at 761 ("Racial, religious, ethnic, or similar grounds"); Soares, 387 N.E.2d at 516 ("sex, race, color, creed or national origin"). Indeed, it is hard to see how such an extension can be avoided since the majority relies so heavily on Thiel v. Southern Pac. Co., 66 S.Ct. 984 (1946), where the excluded group was composed of daily wage earners. Moreover, Thiel was a civil case. Does the majority's rule also apply there?

The inevitable result is that no one--judges, lawyers or litigants--will know which peremptories are allowed and which are not, and virtually all challenges will be questioned. And with the uncertainty there will also come the less-than-candid and the self-deceptive explanations. See King v. County of Nassau, 581 F.Supp. 493, 502 (E.D. N.Y. 1984).

In sum, the purported exercise of the supervisory power is both unwarranted and unwise.

Conclusion

I am unable to agree to the majority's substantial revision of the concept of trial by jury which has so long and so well served our nation and graced the common law. I would not so reconstitute it if I could. Equally important, it is not up to this panel to rewrite either the Constitution or the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, or even

to so drastically and unjustifiably depart from the Supreme Court's and our own prior precedent. Our well-intentioned adventure may prove as harmful to the values implicit to the concepts of the separation of powers, the judicial function and the rule of law as it does to trial by jury. I therefore respectfully dissent.[35]

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[35]I also dissent from the holding that the trial court did not err in refusing to permit the testimony of Giron's attorney, Moriarty, to show that, as a part of Giron's guilty plea "deal" with the Government, Giron was to testify against Leslie in the pending case, and that Giron so understood the "deal." Such a matter, if shown by the evidence, would obviously be material to Giron's credibility, by establishing a motive for him to implicate Leslie. Giron was indisputably the key prosecution witness. The majority says this testimony was inadmissible because a predicate was not laid as required by Fed.R.Evid. 613(b). There are two answers to this.

First, the main thrust of Moriarty's testimony was what <u>he told Giron</u> (and what the prosecutor told Moriarty), <u>not</u> what Giron said. Rule 613(b) is only applicable to prior statements made by the witness sought to be impeached. Moriarty would have

testified that he did "make it clear to Mr. Giron that his mere willingness to testify in this case wasn't enough, that he had to testify against Mr. Leslie." This was clearly admissible to show Giron's state of mind. "When it is proved that D made a statement to X, with the purpose of showing the probable state of mind thereby induced in X, such as ...having knowledge, or motive,...the evidence is not subject to attack as hearsay." McCormick, Evidence 589-90 (2d Ed. 1972). See, e.g., United States v. Kutas, 542 F.2d 527, 528 (9th Cir. 1976), cert. denied, 97 S.Ct. 810 (1977); United States v. Smith, 550 F.2d 277, 281-82 (5th Cir.), cert. denied sub nom. Wallace v. United States, 98 S.Ct. 138 (1977).

Second, although Moriarty also would have testified about Giron's prior statements, namely, those clearly indicating that he did so understand the "deal," such testimony was not inadmissible under Rule 613(b). To begin with, it was not offered for its inconsistency, as such, with Giron's trial testimony, but rather as direct and independent proof of Giron's state of mind. It was hence admissible under Fed.R.Evid. 803(3), if it was hearsay at all. See McCormick, supra at 591 ("This circumstantial nonassertive use of utterances to show state of mind is perhaps most clearly applicable to declarations evincing knowledge...."), 694-95 (declarations of state of mind). See also Hilyer v. Howat Concrete Co., 578 F.2d 422, 425-27 (D.C. CIr. 1978). I recognize that there is a split of authority on whether the provisions of Rule 613(b) must be complied with in such a circumstance if the declaration also conflicts with the witness' trial testimony. See 3A Wigmore, Evidence §1039 (Chadbourn

rev. 1970)("The rule requiring a preliminary warning does not on principle apply to proof of expressions of bias, although many courts so extend it." (Emphasis in original.)). United States v. Lay, 644 F.2d 1087 (5th Cir.), cert. denied, 102 S.Ct. 336 (1981), does not touch that point, for there the only suggested impeaching characteristic was "the inconsistency." Id. at 1090. I think the better practice is not to apply Rule 613(b) to this kind of evidence, at least not if the subject matter is brought out in the witness' cross-examination. Finally, it seems clear to me that the substance of Rule 613(b) was complied with respecting Giron. He was repeatedly cross-examined about what Moriarty told him, and denied that Moriarty had ever said he had to testify against Leslie and claimed that that was never any part of the "deal."

Moriarty's testimony clearly should have been admitted.

Finally, I concur in that portion of the majority opinion dealing with the guilty plea letters.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff-Appellee,

v.

EUGENE LESLIE,
Defendant-Appellant.

APPENDIX B

No. 83-3719

OPINION

Filed February 20, 1986

Before: Clark, Chief Judge, Brown, Gee, Rubin, Reavley, Politz, Randall, Tate, Johnson, Williams, Garwood, Jolly, Higginbotham, Davis, Hill, and Jones, Circuit Judges.

Opinion by Judge Will Garwood; Dissent by Judge Jerre S. Williams, with whom Brown, Rubin, Tate, and Johnson join.

Appeals from the United States District Court
for the Eastern District of Louisiana
A. J. McNamara, District Judge, Presiding

SUMMARY

Criminal Procedure

Appeal from conviction for conspiring to distribute narcotics and possessing narcotics with intent to distribute them in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 846. Affirmed.

Appellant challenges the removal of all blacks from his jury by the use of peremptory challenges. Although the record contains no transcript of the *voir dire* or jury selection process, it includes a jury list showing those removed for cause and by peremptory challenge. When the court completed excusing venirepersons for cause, the jury panel had been reduced to twenty-eight, of whom six were black. The government used its six peremptory challenges to

remove these six blacks, and the defense used its ten peremptory challenges to remove ten whites. The one black person on the alternate pool was removed by the government using its alternate peremptory, while the defense used its alternate peremptory to remove a white from the alternate pool. Appellant's counselmoved for a mistrial on the basis that the government used peremptory challenges to remove all blacks. The court denied the motion.

Rejecting appellant's other complaints, a divided panel of this Court sustained his contention that the district court erred by failing to inquire into the prosecutor's motives for peremptorily challenging black venirepersons, although there was no claim or showing that the challenges were made for purposes unrelated to the outcome of the particular case being tried or were any part of a systematic practice of excluding blacks from jury service. The panel majority rested its holding in this respect upon the Court of Appeals supervisory power over federal district courts and federal prosecutors. The en banc Court, however, disagrees with the panel's resolution of the peremptory challenge issue and affirms the conviction.

[1] The issue presented is whether the prosecution may take race or similar group characteristics into account when it exercises a peremptory challenge for the sole purpose of procuring a jury least likely to be partial to the defense, in light of the discrete facts of the particular case being tried. [2] The resolution of this issue is controlled by the analysis in part II of the Supreme Court's decision in *Swain v. Alabama*, 85 S.Ct. 824 (1965), where the Court held that racially based peremptory challenges made for the purpose of prevailing in the particular case being tried were a proper and traditional part of the jury system as known to the common law and American jurisprudence.

[3] The argument that the racially based peremptory challenges of the type sustained in *Swain*, part II, violate the sixth amendment's "cross-section" requirement is rejected. [4] It stands *Swain* on its head to suggest that it could possibly be consistent with a holding that the sixth amendment's guarantee of trial "by an impartial jury" forbids the kind of peremptory challenge approved in *Swain*, part II. That portion of *Swain* was premised on the conclusion that the type of peremptory challenge there sustained was an

integral and recognized part of such a jury trial. [5] Moreover, the cross-section principle is inapplicable to the type of group-based peremptory challenge dealt with in *Swain*, part II. The cross-section cases are largely couched in terms of systematic exclusion and the principle is applied to the formation of venires, not the individual juries selected from them.

[6] There is a vast difference in function and purpose between selection for a venire and selection for a jury. [7] Excluding a particular cognizable group from all venire pools is stigmatizing and discriminatory in several interrelated ways that the peremptory challenge is not. [8] Furthermore, factors other than those relating to the cross-section principle are important to the concept of the criminal jury. Cross-section values are embraced in the context of, and limited by, the overall concept of trial by jury and that concept includes peremptory challenges, both for individual and group characteristics, when made for the purpose of the particular case being tried.

[9] The impartiality requirement, however, does not imply that a party is entitled to any representative of his or her "group" on the jury, even where that group is a significant one in the community where the trial takes place and from which the venire is drawn. [10] And the peremptory challenge plays an important role in the parties' quest for the "impartial" jury—the jury of the sixth amendment, composed of those who are willing and able to decide the case solely on the evidence and the law. [11] The argument that one party's peremptories may exclude all of a minority group, while the other's peremptories will be insufficient to exclude the majority, with resulting unfairness to the minority party is rejected.

[12] The Court declines the invitation to reach a different result under the guise of employing its supervisory power. [13] None of the three considerations underlying the use of the supervisory powers is significantly implicated here: There is no violation of recognized rights; the exercise of peremptories is plainly legal and thus the use of the supervisory power is not justified on the basis of deterring illegal conduct; and its use in no way implicates "the considerations validly before the jury." [14] Furthermore, the supervisory power does not extend to making radical changes in the nature

and the operation of the challenge in the system established by Congress and the statutory rule-making process.

Finding the broad sweep of the majority opinion uncalled for in this case, the dissenting opinion argued that the narrow issue is whether a district judge properly should have inquired into the issue of possible invidious discrimination in the prosecutor's jury challenges, when the issue is raised by the defendant, through the exercise of the court's power to insure that justice be done in federal prosecutions.

OPINION

WILL GARWOOD, Circuit Judge:

Appellant Leslie appeals his conviction for conspiring to distribute narcotics and possessing narcotics with intent to distribute them, in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 841(a)(1) and 846. Rejecting his other complaints, a divided panel of this Court sustained Leslie's contention that the district court erred by failing to inquire into the prosecutor's motives for peremptorily challenging black venirepersons, although there was no claim or showing that the challenges were made for purposes unrelated to the outcome of the particular case being tried or were any part of a systematic practice of excluding blacks from jury service. 759 F.2d 366. The panel majority rested its holding in this respect "upon our supervisory power over federal district courts and federal prosecutors." *Id.* at 374. This Court, en banc, disagreeing with the panel's resolution of the peremptory challenge issue, affirms Leslie's conviction.[1]

We hold that where in a given trial the prosecutor's peremptory

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[1]This case was taken en banc primarily to address the peremptory challenge matter. Leslie's other complaints relate to the admission in evidence of plea agreement letters between the government and certain of its witnesses, and the trial court's refusal to permit Leslie to impeach the government's witness Giron by testimony of Giron's lawyer, Moriarty. The en banc court concludes that the panel correctly rejected these contentions, and the panel opinion in respect thereto is reinstated. Respecting Moriarty's proffered testimony, the writer remains of the view expressed in the panel dissent. 759 F.2d at 403 n.35.

challenges are made for the purpose of procuring a jury more likely than otherwise to convict in that particular case, and are not made for purposes unrelated to the case being tried or as any part of a systematic practice of attempting to exclude blacks from jury service, the challenges are not rendered improper because they are made in whole or in part on the basis of the group affiliations, including race, of the challenged venirepersons. We further hold that where, as here, there is neither claim nor *prima facie* showing that the prosecutor's peremptory challenges were exercised either as any part of a systematic practice of attempting to exclude blacks from jury service or other than for purposes of the particular case being tried, it is a misuse of whatever supervisory authority we may have in the premises to require judicial inquiry into the prosecution's reasons or motives for its peremptory challenges.

The facts of this case, and the Supreme Court's opinion in *Swain v. Alabama*, 85 S.Ct. 824 (1965), constitute the framework of our analysis.[2]

I.

Context Facts

Appellant Leslie was tried in New Orleans, along with Fernando Giron, a Honduran, on charges of distributing and conspiring to distribute cocaine. After the first day of trial, Giron pleaded guilty and testified for the government. Other significant witnesses for the government were Claude Griffin, who testified that he had acquired cocaine from Giron and distributed it to Leslie, who then redistributed it, and Thomas Gray, who had transported cocaine from Houston to New Orleans for Griffin, received money from Leslie in exchange for the drugs, and then given the money to Griffin. Giron, Griffin, and Gray are white; Leslie is black.

The record contains no transcript of the *voir dire* or jury selection

[2]We are, of course, aware that the Supreme Court has granted certiorari in *Batson v. Kentucky*, 105 S.Ct. 2111 (1985), where the issue presented concerns the constitutional validity of the state prosecutor's use of peremptory challenges to remove all black venirepersons from the jury panel. *Batson*, being a state prosecution, does not directly implicate the supervisory power issue.

process, although it does include the jury list showing those removed for cause and by peremptory challenge. When the court completed excusing venirepersons for cause, the jury panel had been reduced to twenty-eight, of whom six were black. The government used its six peremptory challenges to remove these six blacks, and the defense used its ten peremptory challenges to remove ten whites. Of the four persons comprising the alternate pool, one was black; the government used its alternate peremptory to remove this individual, and the defense used its alternate peremptory to remove a white from the alternate pool. The procedure and order of exercising peremptory strikes are not reflected in the record.

After the peremptories were completed, Leslie's counsel moved for a mistrial. He complained that the government used its peremptories to remove all the blacks from the jury and alternate pools. The Assistant United States Attorney stated that those challenged were "not struck on the basis of race" and offered to give "an in camera reason," which the trial court declined. The trial court then inquired of Leslie's counsel why he was entitled to mistrial, to which counsel responded:

> "Well, the last Supreme Court decision on the subject said that peremptory challenges without demonstrating a pattern or practice, peremptories which strike all blacks, are within the system. But that doesn't eliminate the Court's discretion.
>
> "And in this case, Mr. Leslie is a black man in this community; he has standing in the black community. And without a single black on that jury, there is no way to communicate through peers in this community."

The trial court denied the motion for mistrial, and Leslie's counsel objected stating, "there is no apparent reason, other than race, for the striking."

The matter was not raised again in the trial court, either by motion for new trial or otherwise. No attempt was ever made to analyze or comment on the *voir dire*. Nothing was said concerning the composition of the venire panel except in terms of who on it was black and who was white. Leslie never claimed that anything

similar had ever before occurred or would likely occur again, or that there was any attempt to utilize peremptory strikes for purposes other than the outcome of the case being tried.

In his initial appellant's brief, Leslie casts his complaint in the following context:

> "Eugene Leslie, a prominent black fight promoter and trainer in the City of New Orleans, was tried by an all white jury . . . on cocaine charges. . . . No significant witness against Leslie was black. . . .
>
> "The government's theory was that Claude Griffin . . . had bought cocaine from a Honduran, Leslie's co-indictee Fernando Giron, in Houston, Texas. Griffin sold a part of the cocaine to defendant Leslie. . . .
>
> "FBI agents . . . intercepted phone calls between Griffin and Leslie. These telephone calls did not mention cocaine. The calls, however, sounded suspicious to FBI ears since Leslie had repetitively and in varying forms asked Griffin whether there was 'anything yet.'
>
> "The defense presented an entirely innocent explanation for the style of the conversations with Griffin: it was typical for Leslie, a black man, to speak in shorthand about things which he and the other individual in the conversation understood. . . .
>
> "Leslie explained the true meaning of his conversations with Griffin in the following manner. Leslie had first met Griffin in Griffin's capacity as an airconditioning repairman and installer. They struck up a friendship; Leslie visited Griffin, and Griffin visited Leslie. At Griffin's house, Leslie met the co-indictee, Fernando Giron, who was from Honduras. . . . Griffin and Giron talked about young Honduran fighters, and the possibility of their coming to the United States for training; Leslie, ever ready for the opportunity to train a champion, was interested in developing that connection.

". . . .

"Along with the suspicious conversations of Leslie with Griffin, the FBI had recorded similarly suspicious conversations by Griffin with another prominent black man in the city, the funeral director Alton Glapion. Glapion was a closer friend of Griffin's than was Leslie. Griffin had known Glapion for 20 years, Leslie for under two. . . . Griffin was then involved in major business dealings with Glapion and Glapion was ready, willing and able to put up his funeral home for bond for Griffin; Leslie on the other hand owed Griffin money. . . . It was the defense theory of the case . . . that when Griffin said the oil conversations with Leslie were about cocaine, while the oil conversations with Glapion were about oil, . . . that he had made a self-preserving choice; Griffin had given up the innocent Leslie to protect the also innocent Glapion in order to preserve his credibility, and thereby to save himself and his family, who were indicted along with him, from certain annihilation by the government.[3]

". . . .

". . . To acquit the defendant Leslie, a black fight promoter from New Orleans, the jury had to be open to the possibility that Leslie had spoken to Claude Griffin, the principal prosecution witness, in a shorthand that was not code for cocaine. There was no black juror to explain to the rest of the jurors in their deliberations that there was nothing irregular about Leslie's speech patterns: to medi-

[3]Leslie's brief elaborates on this point as follows:

"In other words, it was the belief of the defense that Griffin, faced with similarly suspicious intercepted telephone conversations from his two black friends, Glapion and Leslie, could not say that both of them were innocent of wrongdoing, even though that were true. Griffin could not exculpate both of his black friends, and still be believed to the extent that he would receive misdemeanors for his involved family members, and his single count deals. . . . He was forced to choose, and so chose his greater friend, Glapion, over his lesser friend, Leslie. Griffin therefore implicated Leslie, as the least of the horribles with which he had to contend and choose."

> ate between Leslie's lifestyle and that of the white jurors; or to evaluate the credibility of the defense from the black perspective."

Fairly construed then, Leslie has not complained that the prosecution's exercise of peremptory challenges here was motivated by *anything* other than an attempt to enhance the chances that the verdict in *this case* would be favorable to it. There is no allegation or suggestion that these strikes were any part of an effort to prevent black citizens from serving on criminal juries, or were motivated by any personal desire on the part of the Assistant United States Attorney not to associate with blacks. Rather, Leslie complains that, because of the peculiar factual setting of this case, he needed one or more black jurors to "translate" his speech and conduct to the rest of the jury; in effect, to vouch for his explanation of the suspicious conversations and activities.[4] There is no suggestion of complaint that the prosecution did other than make its strikes in an effort to procure, from among those summonsed and not disqualified, a jury which, under the facts of this particular case, would least likely be partial to Leslie, by excluding blacks as individuals either more prone to adopt a role of translator, and then spokesman, for Leslie or perhaps as being more likely susceptible to influence on behalf of one so prominent in the black community. This is also apparent from Leslie's statement in his brief, repeated in substance at panel oral argument, that:

> "Indeed, there is no pattern or practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana which could be proved up by a systematic and exhaustive examination of the peremptory practices of the prosecutors. Black jurors are no less prosecution oriented in most cases than are jurors of other races."

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[4]Leslie's brief describes this as "a case where the black defendant's mode of conversation, position in the community and lifestyle required translation to the jury for the defense to be credibly received."

II.

Discussion

[1] Accordingly, the question here is not whether the prosecution may peremptorily challenge blacks in an effort to deny citizens of that race the right and privilege of serving on criminal juries. *Nor* is it what character of proof suffices to sustain such a claim, *prima facie* or otherwise. No such claim has been fairly presented. Rather, the issue here is whether the prosecution may take race or similar group characteristics into account when it exercises a peremptory challenge for the sole purpose of procuring a jury least likely to be partial to the defense, in light of the discrete facts of the particular case being tried.

Swain v. Alabama

[2] The resolution of this issue is controlled by the analysis in part II of the Supreme Court's opinion in *Swain v. Alabama*, 85 S.Ct. 824 (1965). As in this case, the prosecution in *Swain* peremptorily struck all six black venirepersons on the jury panel, with the result that the black defendant was tried by an all-white jury.

So far as it concerned peremptory challenges by the prosecution based on race or similar group membership, *Swain* distinguished between and dealt separately with *two* types of such challenges: *first*, those made for the purpose of prevailing in the particular case being tried, which it addressed in part II; *second*, those made "for reasons wholly unrelated to the outcome of the particular case on trial . . . to deny the Negro the same right and opportunity to participate in the administration of justice enjoyed by the white population" (*id.* at 838), which it considered in part III. The distinction between the two categories of racially based peremptory challenges is likewise reflected in the description of the second type as being the kind the prosecution would make "whatever the circumstances, whatever the crime and whoever the defendant or the victim may be." *Id.* at 837. In *Swain* part II, the Court held that racially based peremptory challenges of the first kind were a proper and a traditional part of the jury system as known to the common law and American jurisprudence. In its part III, the *Swain* Court strongly intimated that racially based peremptory challenges of the

second kind were improper, but did not expressly so rule since it held that no sufficient showing had been made that the challenges in question were of that kind.

Justice Goldberg, joined by Chief Justice Warren and Justice Douglas, dissented. *Id.* at 840-50.[5] The dissent, however, found no fault with part II of *Swain* or its holding respecting the first type of race-based peremptory challenge. Rather, the dissent took the view that a proper *prima facie* case had been made that the race-based peremptory challenges were of the second kind. The dissent emphasized that the Alabama venire selection system, which relied in large part on subjective choices by individual jury commissioners, produced venires in the county of trial that averaged ten to fifteen percent black, although blacks constituted twenty-six percent of the population available for jury service; and that "this method of venire selection cannot be viewed in isolation and must be considered in connection with the peremptory challenge system." *Id.* at 845. They particularly noted "it is undisputed that no Negro has ever served on any petit jury" in the county. *Id.* The dissent summarized its views by stating:

> "The holding called for by this case, is that *where* as here, a Negro defendant proves that Negroes constitute a substantial segment of the population, that Negroes are qualified to serve as jurors, and that none or only a token number has served on juries over an extended period of time, a prima facie case of the exclusion of Negroes from juries is then made out; . . . and that the State wholly fails to meet the prima facie case of systematic and purposeful racial discrimination by showing that it has been accomplished by the use of a peremptory challenge system unless the State also shows that it is not involved in the misuse of such a system *to prevent all* Negroes from *ever* sitting on *any* jury. Such a holding would not interfere with the rights of *defendants* [emphasis in original] to use peremptories, nor the right of the State to use peremptories as they normally and traditionally have been used.

[5]Justice Harlan joined in the Court's opinion, but emphasized his understanding that the Court did not ultimately decide whether or not the second type of race-based peremptory challenge, addressed in part III, was improper. *Id.* at 840. Justice Black concurred in the result without opinion. *Id.*

> "It would not mean . . . that Negroes are entitled to proportionate representation on a jury. . . . *Nor would it mean* that *where systematic exclusion* of Negroes from jury service *has not been shown*, a *prosecutor's motives are subject to question* or judicial inquiry *when he excludes Negroes* or any other group *from sitting on a jury in a particular case. Only* where *systematic* exclusion has been shown, would the State be called upon to justify its use of peremptories or to negative the State's involvement in discriminatory jury selection." *Id.* at 849 (footnote omitted; emphasis added).[6]

The Eighth Circuit has observed, "The very heavy burden of proof set forth in *Swain* has been extensively criticized by commentators." *United States v. Childress*, 715 F.2d 1313, 1316 (8th Cir. 1983) (en banc), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984). Relatedly, it has been said that "*Swain* obviously furnishes no protection whatever to the first defendant who suffers such discrimination in any given court." *People v. Wheeler*, 583 P.2d 748, 767 (Cal. 1978).[7] However, what these concerns are directly relevant to is the

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[6]Certain scholarly comment has given a similar reading of *Swain*. *See* Saltzburg and Powers, *Peremptory Challenges and the Clash Between Impartiality and Group Representation*, 41 Md. L. R. 337, 345 (1982):

> "The *Swain* Court thus recognized two possible motives for exercising challenges against black jurors. The first—the use of race as a proxy by which to identify probable prejudice in a particular case—was explicitly approved by all the justices, except Justice Black who concurred in the result without opinion. The Court emphasized the importance of protecting the inviolability of the peremptory strike, concluding that a court should not scrutinize a prosecutor's motive for challenging blacks in a particular case. The second—the use of challenges to keep blacks off all juries—was not approved."

See also United States v. Newman, 549 F.2d 240, 248-49 (2d Cir. 1977) (quoting *Swain* dissent and discussing common strains in the majority and dissenting opinions); *United States v. Childress*, 715 F.2d 1313, 1315 (8th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984) (comparing the majority and dissenting opinions, and the extent to which they agree).

[7]Much the same thing, of course, could be said of any approach under which a material factor in the judgment in a particular case is an evaluation of the results in other similar situations over a period of time. Performance over time frequently has been looked to in venire underrepresentation cases. *See* cases and principles discussed in *Rose v. Mitchell*, 99 S.Ct. 2993, 3005, 3007, 3009 (1979).

proof required to sustain a claim that the prosecution's exercise of peremptory challenges is of the *second Swain* kind. Here, as noted, we are not concerned with how such a claim is or should be proved, because no such claim has been fairly presented. What we *are* concerned with is a claim of racially based peremptory challenges of the first *Swain* kind.

We turn then to *Swain* part II for an understanding of the holding—from which no Justice on that Court, then well past a decade under the leadership of Chief Justice Warren, dissented—that this sort of peremptory challenge is valid. Justice White commenced by stating that the defendant's motion "seeking as it did to invalidate the alleged purposeful striking of Negroes from the jury . . . was properly denied." *Id.* at 831. He noted that "there is merit in" the state's contention that the system of peremptory strikes, described as "challenges without cause, without explanation and without judicial scrutiny," justified "striking any group of otherwise qualified jurors in any given case, whether they be Negroes, Catholics, accountants or those with blue eyes." *Id.*

The opinion traces the over 600-year-old history of the peremptory challenge at common law, observing that in one form or another "[p]eremptories on both sides became the settled law of England" and that "[t]his common law provided the starting point for peremptories in this country." *Id.* at 832. The opinion further traces the continuous existence, from the beginnings of this nation, of some form of peremptory challenge, in all trials of serious offense, by both prosecution and defense in the federal system and in all or nearly all of the states. *Id.* at 832-34. The majority took note of the existence of explicit statutory recognition of the government's right of peremptory challenge in federal courts ever since 1865. *Id.* at 832-33. Although he observed that the United States Constitution does not mandate the availability of peremptory challenges,[8] Justice White stated that "[t]he persistence of peremptories and their extensive use demonstrate the long and widely held

[8]While several other Supreme Court opinions have also so stated, *see Stilson v. United States*, 40 S.Ct. 28, 30 (1919); *United States v. Wood*, 57 S.Ct. 177, 185 (1936); *Frazier v. United States*, 69 S.Ct. 201, 206 n.11 (1949), the Court has never been faced with a complete abrogation of the peremptory challenge.

belief that peremptory challenge is a necessary part of trial by jury." *Id.* at 835.[9]

The opinion continues by noting:

> "The function of the challenge is not only to eliminate extremes of partiality on both sides, but to assure the parties that the jurors before whom they try the case will decide on the basis of the evidence placed before them, and not otherwise." *Id.* at 835.

It also explains that "the peremptory permits rejection for a real or imagined partiality that is less easily designated or demonstrable" than is required for challenges for cause. *Id.* at 836.[10] Another function of the peremptory is that it "facilitates the exercise of challenges for cause by removing the fear of incurring a juror's hostility through examination and challenge for cause." *Id.* at 835. The state is as fully entitled to these benefits as the defendant:

> "[T]he view in this country has been that the system should guarantee 'not only freedom from any bias against the accused, but also from any prejudice against his prosecution. Between him and the state the scales are to be evenly held.' *Hayes v. State of Missouri*, 120 U.S. 68, 70, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351, 30 L.Ed. 578 [1887]." *Id.*

As to use of peremptories on the basis of the racial or other group-related, as opposed to individual, characteristics of the challenged venireperson, *Swain* states that:

> "It [the peremptory challenge] is no less frequently exercised on grounds normally thought irrelevant to legal proceedings or official action, namely, the race, religion,

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[9] *See Lewis v. United States*, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892) ("The right of [peremptory] challenge comes from the common law with the trial by jury itself, and has always been held essential to the fairness of trial by jury.").

[10] A related, long-recognized common-law function noted by Justice Story is that the prisoner "may not be tried by persons against whom he has conceived a prejudice." *United States v. Marchant & Colson*, 12 Wheat 480, 482, 6 L.Ed. 700, 700 (1827). *See also Lewis v. United States*, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892).

nationality, occupation or affiliations of people summoned for jury duty. For the question a prosecutor or defense counsel must decide is not whether a juror of a particular race or nationality is in fact partial, but whether one from a different group is less likely to be. It is well known that these factors are widely explored during the *voir dire*, by both prosecutor and accused. . . . This Court has held that the fairness of trial by jury requires no less. . . . Hence veniremen are not always judged solely as individuals for the purpose of exercising peremptory challenges. Rather they are challenged in light of the limited knowledge counsel has of them, which may include their group affiliations, in the context of the case to be tried.

". . . In the quest for an impartial and qualified jury, Negro and white, Protestant and Catholic, are alike subject to being challenged without cause. To subject the prosecutor's challenge in any particular case to the demands and traditional standards of the Equal Protection Clause would entail a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge. The challenge, *pro tanto*, would no longer be peremptory . . . .

". . . The presumption in any particular case must be that the prosecutor is using the State's challenges to obtain a fair and impartial jury to try the case before the court. The presumption is not overcome and the prosecutor therefore subjected to examination by allegations that in the case at hand all Negroes were removed from the jury or that they were removed because they were Negroes." *Id.* at 836-37 (footnotes omitted).

This language is, of course, wholly at odds with the theory of such cases as *People v. Wheeler*, *supra*, and *Commonwealth v. Soares*, 387 N.E.2d 499, 514-15 (Mass.), *cert. denied*, 100 S.Ct. 170 (1979), that a venireperson may not properly be peremptorily challenged because of characteristics thought to be peculiarly common to any "cognizable" group of which she is a member, as distinguished from her assumed uniquely individual (or noncognizable group) characteristics. Plainly, the Supreme Court in *Swain* has held that a prosecutor may peremptorily challenge on racial (or similar

group) grounds so long as he does so on "considerations related to the case he is trying, the particular defendant involved and the particular crime charged." *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 837.

In sum, as the Eighth Circuit said in *United States v. Carter*, 528 F.2d 844, 850 (8th Cir. 1975), *cert. denied*, 96 S.Ct. 1745 (1976), "the Supreme Court in *Swain* made it clear that race or other group affiliation is in fact a legitimate ground for challenge in an individual case."[11]

Sixth Amendment

[3] It has been suggested that *Swain* is no longer authoritative, or at least is not authoritative with respect to cases in which the sixth amendment is implicated, because it was decided some three years

[11]Similarly, we have said "the Supreme Court has recognized that the peremptory challenge cannot be subject to judicial review even when exercised by the prosecution along racial lines." *Sorenson v. Raymond*, 532 F.2d 496, 500 (5th Cir. 1976) (citing *Swain* part II). This, of course, is the recognized view. *See, e.g., United States v. Thompson*, 730 F.2d 82, 85 (8th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 105 S.Ct. 443 (1984) (prosecution peremptory challenges of blacks confessedly "based on the assumed racial affinity of these prospective jurors to designated black alibi witnesses" is sanctioned by *Swain* and does not violate the sixth amendment); *United States v. Clark*, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984) ("[t]he Supreme Court held some years ago that it is not a denial of the equal protection of the laws for a prosecutor to base peremptory challenges on racial grounds, provided that he is not doing so in pursuance of a systematic policy of racial exclusion from juries," citing *Swain*); *United States v. Newman*, 549 F.2d 240, 249 (2d Cir. 1977) (proper peremptory under *Swain* where prosecutors " 'believed that the striking of Black veniremen would lessen the risk of bias in favor of the [black] defendant' "); *United States v. Danzey*, 476 F. Supp. 1065, 1066 (E.D. N.Y. 1979), *aff'd per curiam*, 620 F.2d 286, *reh'g en banc denied*, 622 F.2d 1065, 1066 (2d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 101 S.Ct. 225 (1980) (peremptory challenges "to exclude jurors of the same ethnic background as the defendant": four judges concurring in denial of rehearing en banc state that "use of peremptory challenges based on a group bias assumption denies no cognizable legal rights 'in any particular case,' " citing *Swain*, though it might do so if used "to exclude Blacks from service as jurors in general or in a significant category of cases"); *King v. County of Nassau*, 581 F. Supp. 493, 500 (E.D. N.Y. 1984) ("under *Swain*, state use of racial criteria in making peremptory challenges is illegal only when the state, acting on a policy of white dominance, attempts to keep blacks off *all* juries" (emphasis in original)); *State v. Grady*, 286 N.W.2d 607, 611 (Wis. Ct. App. 1979) ("*Swain*, as adopted, establishes race as an appropriate basis for the exercise of peremptory challenges").

before it was first held, in *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 88 S.Ct. 1444 (1968), that the sixth amendment applied to the states.[12] In this connection, it is claimed that the racially based peremptory challenges of the kind sustained in *Swain* part II violate the sixth amendment's "cross-section requirement," particularly as reflected in cases such as *Taylor v. Louisiana*, 95 S.Ct. 692 (1975). *See McCray v. Abrams*, 750 F.2d 1113, 1124-30 (2d Cir. 1984), *reh'g en banc denied*, 756 F.2d 277 (1985), petition for certiorari pending, 105 S.Ct. 2318 (1985).

We reject this analysis. This Court has consistently applied *Swain* in federal prosecutions where the sixth amendment has obviously always been fully applicable. Thus, we stated in *United States v. Williams*, 446 F.2d 486, 488 (5th Cir. 1971):

> "Appellant next contends that he was denied his constitutional right to a trial by an impartial jury. Appellant, a Negro, was tried by an all-white jury. . . . He objects, however, to the fact that although there were three Negroes on the twenty-eight-man jury venire, all three were peremptorily stricken by the Government prosecutor without cause or explanation, in violation of his Sixth Amendment Rights. Such a contention conflicts with the holding of *Swain v. State of Alabama* . . . in which the Supreme Court upheld the system of peremptory challenges, explicitly finding merit in the State's argument that the system affords 'a suitable and necessary method of securing juries which in fact and in the opinion of the parties are fair and impartial.' "

Other decisions of this court applying *Swain* in federal prosecutions include: *Davis v. United States*, 374 F.2d 1, 5 (5th Cir. 1967); *United States v. Pearson*, 448 F.2d 1207, 1213-14 (5th Cir. 1971); *United States v. Carlton*, 456 F.2d 207, 208 (5th Cir. 1972) (per curiam). We have continued with like holdings after *Taylor*. *See e.g., United States v. Durham*, 587 F.2d 799, 801 (5th Cir. 1979); *United States v. McLaurin*, 557 F.2d 1064, 1076 (5th Cir.), *cert.*

[12]In *DeStefano v. Woods*, 88 S.Ct. 2093 (1968) (per curiam), the Court held that *Duncan* was inapplicable to cases in which trial began prior to May 20, 1968, the date *Duncan* was decided.

denied sub nom. Hamilton v. United States, 98 S.Ct. 743 (1977). In affirming the conviction in *McLaurin*, we stated:

> "They [appellants] argue that .... the government exercised its peremptory challenges in a racially discriminatory manner, the net effect of which was to deny the appellants their right to be tried by a jury which is *representative of their community*.
>
> "... Although *Swain* of course involved state rather than federal proceedings, *we apply the same standards and analysis in* our review of *federal criminal trial*." *Id.* at 1076 (emphasis added; footnote omitted).

Likewise, we have continued to apply *Swain* to our consideration of habeas corpus applications arising from state convictions in trials after *Duncan* and *Taylor*. *See Easter v. Estelle*, 609 F.2d 756, 759-60 (5th Cir. 1980); *Prejean v. Blackburn*, 743 F.2d 1091, 1103-04 (5th Cir. 1984), *reh'g en banc denied*, 765 F.2d 482 (1985). In *Prejean* we followed this course despite explicit recognition of the opinions on the denial of certiorari in *McCray v. New York*, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983). We cited with approval the Eleventh Circuit's opinion in *Willis v. Zant*, 720 F.2d 1212, 1217-21 (11th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 3546 (1984), in which that Circuit stated (720 F.2d at 1219 n.14), "[W]e decline petitioner's invitation to extend the sixth amendment's cross-section analysis under *Taylor*, *supra*, to the traverse jury itself." *See Prejean*, 743 F.2d at 1104 & n.11. *See also Sonnier v. Maggio*, 720 F.2d 401, 407-08, *reh'g en banc denied*, 723 F.2d 907 (5th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 1331 (1984).

These holdings are consistent with a vast host of decisions by other Circuits which have applied the *Swain* analysis in federal prosecutions, and in habeas cases for state trials after *Duncan* and *Taylor*. No useful purpose would be served by citing all of these cases. Some pre-date *Swain* itself, such as *Hall v. United States*, 168 F.2d 161 (D.C. Cir.), *cert. denied*, 68 S.Ct. 1509 (1948), where the *dissent* was expressly grounded on the theory that the jury must be drawn from a cross section, with no cognizable group intentionally excluded, and that the federal courts should ensure this by use of supervisory powers over peremptory challenges. *Id.* at 165-66. *Hall*

was cited with approval in *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 836 n.26, and also by this Court in *Carlton*, 456 F.2d at 208. Some of the more recent federal appellate decisions to the same effect are collected in the dissent in *McCray v. Abrams*, 750 F.2d at 1136.[13] *McCray* appears to be the first federal appellate decision reaching a contrary result, albeit over a vigorous dissent.[14] Since then, a panel of the Sixth Circuit has followed *McCray*, *see Booker v. Jabe*, No. 83-1136, slip op. (6th Cir., October 29, 1985), while a panel of the Tenth Circuit has declined to do so. *United States v. Brown*, 770 F.2d 912 (10th Cir. 1985).

Before the 1978 decision in *People v. Wheeler*, the state courts had been unanimous in following the principle of *Swain*. *See* Annot., 79 A.L.R. 3d 14 (1977). *Wheeler* itself, though it gives extensive consideration to decisions of the United States Supreme Court, is ultimately based on the California Constitution. The California Supreme Court stated:

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[13]These are *Willis v. Zant*, 720 F.2d 1212, 1219 n.14 (11th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 3546 (1984); *United States v. Childress*, 715 F.2d 1313 (8th Cir. 1983) (en banc), *cert. denied* 104 S.Ct. 744 (1984); *United States v. Whitfield*, 715 F.2d 145, 146-47 (4th Cir. 1983); *Weathersby v. Morris*, 708 F.2d 1493, 1497 (9th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 719 (1984); *United States v. Canel*, 708 F.2d 894, 898 (3d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 165 (1983); *United States v. Jenkins*, 701 F.2d 850, 859-60 (10th Cir. 1983). *See also United States ex rel. Palmer v. DeRobertis*, 738 F.2d 168, 172 & n.3 (7th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 105 S.Ct. 306 (1984) (rejecting argument against application of *Swain* based on opinions on denial of certiorari in *McCray v. New York*, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983)); *United States v. Newman*, 549 F.2d 240, 244, 246 (2d Cir. 1977); *United States v. Danzey*, 476 F. Supp. 1065, 1067 (E.D. N.Y. 1979), *aff'd per curiam*, 620 F.2d 286, *reh'g en banc denied*, 622 F.2d 1065 (2d Cir.), *cert. denied*, 101 S.Ct. 225 (1980); *United States v. Thompson*, 730 F.2d 82, 85 (8th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 105 S.Ct. 443 (1984); *United States v. Clark*, 737 F.2d 679, 681-82 (7th Cir. 1984); *United States v. Calhoun*, 542 F.2d 1094, 1103 (9th Cir. 1976).

[14]As reflected in the opinions on denial of rehearing en banc, *McCray*'s precedential value is undermined "by the lack of adversity between the litigants on the central issue in the case," leading at least one member of the Second Circuit to view it as not binding on future panels of that Court. *McCray v. Abrams*, 756 F.2d at 278.

Two opinions of district courts in the Second Circuit have strongly criticized its opinion in *McCray*. *See Roman v. Abrams*, 608 F. Supp. 629, 638-42 (S.D. N.Y. 1985) (Brieant, J.); *Schreiber v. Salamack*, — F. Supp. — (No. 85 Civ. 1263, S.D. N.Y., October 17, 1985) (Groetel, J.).

> "The court's motivation in *Swain* seems to have been its desire to avoid what it believed would be 'a radical change in the nature and operation of the [peremptory] challenge' (380 U.S. at pp. 221-222, 85 S.Ct. at p. 836), and we strongly suspect that desire has survived the advent of the *Taylor* rule. We therefore assume that if the present question were before the high court it would reaffirm *Swain* and reach the same result under the representative cross-section rule as it did under the equal protection clause." 583 P.2d at 767 (footnote omitted).[15]

Other states that have followed *Wheeler* have likewise based their decisions on local law. *See Commonwealth v. Soares, supra; State v. Neil*, 457 So.2d 481, 486 (Fla. 1984); *Riley v. State*, 496 A.2d 997 (Del. 1985); *State v. Gilmore*, 199 N.J. Super. 389, 489 A.2d 1175 (1985). *See also State v. Crespin*, 612 P.2d 716, 718 (N.M. Ct. App. 1980).

However, the *Swain* approach remains the overwhelming majority rule among the states. Justice Marshall, dissenting from the denial of certiorari in *Gilliard v. Mississippi*, 104 S.Ct. 40, 43 (1983), observed:

> "To my knowledge, in the five years since *Wheeler* and *Soares*, not a single state supreme court has imposed state constitutional limits on peremptory challenges. In fact, over the same period, at least 19 jurisdictions have considered the issue and, following *Swain*, reaffirmed their view that the exclusion of Negroes by peremptory challenges is constitutional in the absence of evidence of systematic exclusion." (Footnotes omitted.)[16]

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[15]The *Wheeler* opinion also observes that Justice White is the author of both *Swain* and *Taylor*. *See Wheeler*, 583 P.2d at 767 n.33.

[16]The state decisions which have considered and rejected *Wheeler* and *Soares* are cited in footnote 3 to Justice Marshall's dissent, 104 S.Ct. at 43 n.3. *See also* cases cited in *People v. Williams*, 97 Ill.2d 252, 454 N.E.2d 220, 233 (1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 2364 (1984). For earlier decisions *see* Annot., 79 A.L.R. 3d 14 (1977). Since Justice Marshall wrote, appellate courts in Florida, Delaware, and New Jersey can be added to those following *Wheeler*, *see State v. Neil, supra; Riley v. State, supra;* and *State v. Gilmore, supra*. Maryland can

Moreover, when *Swain* was decided the cross-section principle already had long been established, and was indisputably applicable to the states at least as it pertained to the *Swain* context, namely, a black defendant challenging his conviction on the ground that the jury selection procedures tended to reduce the presence of blacks in the venire and on the jury below the level of a representative cross section. Thus, Justice White stated for the court in *Taylor*:

> "A unanimous Court stated in *Smith v. Texas*, 311 U.S. 128, 130, 61 S.Ct. 164, 165, 85 L.Ed. 84 (1940), that '[i]t is part of the established tradition in the use of juries as instruments of public justice that the jury be a body truly representative of the community.' . . . A state jury system that resulted in systematic exclusion of Negroes as jurors was therefore held to violate the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.
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> ". . . In *Brown v. Allen*, 344 U.S. 443, 474, 73 S.Ct. 397, 416, 97 L.Ed. 469 (1953), the Court declared that '[o]ur duty to protect the federal constitutional rights of all does not mean we must or should impose on states our conception of the proper source of jury lists, so long as the source reasonably reflects a cross-section of the population suitable in character and intelligence for that civic duty.'
>
> ". . . .
>
> "The unmistakable import of this Court's opinions, at least since 1940, *Smith v. Texas, supra*, and not repudiated by intervening decisions, is that the selection of a petit jury from a representative cross section of the community

likely be considered as in the undecided, rather than the anti-*Wheeler*, faction, *see Lawrence v. State*, 457 A.2d 1127, 1133 (Md. 1983). And appellate courts in Indiana, Arizona, Nevada, and Colorado have joined the ranks of those rejecting *Wheeler*. *See Hobson v. State*, 471 N.E.2d 281, 285-86 (Ind. 1984); *State v. Wiley*, 698 P.2d 1244 (Ariz. 1985) (en banc); *People v. Fields*, 697 P.2d 749 (Col. App. 1984) (certiorari granted by Colorado Supreme Court, No. 84 S.C. 382, March 11, 1985); *Nevius v. State*, — P.2d — (No. 14683, Nev. Sup. Ct., May 20, 1985) (petition for rehearing pending). *See also People v. Lyles* 478 N.E.2d 291 (Ill. 1985); *Booker v. State*, 449 So.2d 209, 222 (Miss. 1984).

is an essential component of the Sixth Amendment right to a jury trial." 95 S.Ct. at 696-97.[17]

[4] Indeed, *Swain* part II is largely based on an analysis of the current and historical role of the peremptory challenge in the common law and American jury system generally. It particularly relies on federal criminal cases, such as *Lewis v. United States*, 13 S.Ct. 136 (1892); *Pointer v. United States*, 14 S.Ct. 410 (1894); *Harrison v. United States*, 16 S.Ct. 961 (1896); *Miles v. United States*, 26 L.Ed. 481 (1881); and *Aldridge v. United States*, 51 S.Ct. 470 (1931). The opinion likewise carefully traces the history of the use of the peremptory challenge in federal criminal trials up to 1965. Accordingly, it stands *Swain* on its head to suggest that it could possibly be consistent with a holding that the sixth amendment's guarantee of trial "by an impartial jury" forbids the kind of peremptory challenge approved in *Swain* part II. That portion of *Swain* was premised on the conclusion that the type of peremptory challenge there sustained was an integral and recognized part of such a jury trial. The equal protection clause was thought not to forbid what was so clearly authorized as a significant part of the constitutionally required jury trial.

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[17]This is not to say that application of the sixth amendment to the states added nothing to the jury selection question. Rather, what it added is not material in the *Swain* context. For example, the sixth amendment allows one not a member of the underrepresented class to complain, *Taylor*, while this result is, or at least was, less clear under the equal protection clause. *See Alexander v. Louisiana*, 92 S.Ct. 1221, 1226, (1972); *Peters v. Kiff*, 92 S.Ct. 2163, 2168-69 (1972). Further, where the underrepresented group is not a racial one, the sixth amendment's protection may be stronger than that of the equal protection clause. *See Duren v. Missouri*, 99 S.Ct. 664 (1979); *Hoyt v. Florida*, 82 S.Ct. 159 (1961). But *Swain* involved a black defendant claiming underrepresentation of his race. Finally, under the equal protection clause the statistical case is only *prima facie*, and may be rebutted by a sufficiently strong showing that there was no discriminatory intent or that any such intent had no determinative effect, while under the sixth amendment the response to the same threshold showing must be one of "adequate justification." *Duren*, 99 S.Ct. at 670 n.26. This is not material in the *Swain* context where the question was *whether* a threshold showing had been made.

It may also be noted that this Court has likewise long been sensitive to the cross-section principle. *See* the various opinions in *Rabinowitz v. United States*, 366 F.2d 34, 57-58, 77-79, 83 (5th Cir. 1966) (Rives, J.; Brown, J.; concurring; Bell, J., dissenting in part). This has not prevented us from applying *Swain* to federal cases or post-1968 state habeas cases.

[5] Moreover, the cross-section principle is inapplicable to the kind of group-based peremptory challenge dealt with in *Swain* part II. To begin with, the cross-section cases are largely couched in terms of *systematic* exclusion. Further, the cross-section principle is applied to the formation of the venires, not the individual juries selected from them.[18] Thus, in *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 92 S.Ct. 1628, 1634 (1972), Justice White, citing *Swain*, stated:

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[18]It has been suggested that *Witherspoon v. Illinois*, 88 S.Ct. 1770 (1968), indicates that the cross-section requirement is applied at the jury, as well as the venire, selection level. *McCray v. Abrams*, 750 F.2d at 1129. We are not persuaded.

To begin with, we have consistently held that in capital cases peremptory challenges may be used to exclude those who express hesitancy about imposing the death penalty but whose exclusion for cause is forbidden by *Witherspoon*. *See Jordan v. Watkins*, 681 F.2d 1067, 1070 & n.2 (5th Cir. 1982) (citing *Swain*); *Sonnier v. Maggio*, 720 F.2d 401, 406-07, *reh'g en banc denied*, 722 F.2d 907 (5th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 1331 (1984) (citing *Swain*). *See also Dobbert v. Strickland*, 718 F.2d 1518, 1525 (11th Cir. 1983), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 3591 (1984) (same). *Cf. Grigsby v. Mabry*, 758 F.2d 226, *cert. granted sub nom. Lockhart v. McCree*, 106 S.Ct. 59 (1985) (challenge for cause, but *not* peremptory challenge, of *Witherspoon* excludables violates the cross-section requirement on the guilt or innocence issue in capital case).

Justice Brennan (Justice Marshall concurring) has noted that allowing challenge for cause in a capital case where the requirements of *Witherspoon* have *not* been met violates the jury cross-section cases, stating: "Though these cases involve systematic exclusion from the jury pool and not from a particular jury, death-qualification is the functional equivalent of exclusion from the pool. The prosecution has *unlimited* ability to challenge prospective jurors for cause and uses the challenges to remove *all* members of an identifiable segment of the community *from the pool*." *Wainwright v. Witt*, 105 S.Ct. 844, 870 n.10 (1985) (dissenting opinion) (emphasis added). Obviously, these remarks are inapplicable to peremptory challenges.

Further, where a particular ground of challenge for cause (such as opposition to the death penalty) is recognized by state law, this has an inherently systematic effect not present in the peremptory challenge exercised on an individual case basis (*i.e.*, of the *Swain* part II variety).

Moreover, *Witherspoon's* reliance on the cross-section approach has been deemphasized, while the broad discretion afforded juries in death penalty cases at that time has been seen as a particularly important factor in *Witherspoon*. *See Wainwright v. Witt*, 105 S.Ct. at 851, 852 n.5.

Finally, even as to challenges for cause, *Witherspoon* and its progeny have recognized that the exclusion of "Witherspoon-excludables" is acceptable,

> "*All that the Constitution forbids,* however, *is systematic* exclusion of identifiable segments of the community from jury panels and from the juries ultimately drawn from those panels; a defendant may not, for example, challenge the makeup of a jury merely because no members of his race are on the jury, but must prove that his race has been *systematically* excluded. *See Swain v. Alabama,* 380 U.S. 202, 208-209, 85 S.Ct. 824, 829, 13 L.Ed.2d 759 (1965) . . . ." (Emphasis added.)

Similarly, in *Taylor,* Justice White wrote for the Court:

> "If the fair-cross-section rule is to govern the selection of juries, as we have concluded it must, women cannot be *systematically* excluded *from jury panels from which petit juries are drawn.*
>
> ". . . .
>
> "It should also be emphasized that in holding that petit juries must be drawn from a source fairly representative of the community *we impose no requirement that petit juries actually chosen must* mirror the community and *reflect the various distinctive groups in the population.* Defendants are not entitled to a jury of any particular composition . . . but the *jury wheels, pools of names, panels, or venires from which juries are drawn must not systematically exclude* distinctive groups in the community and thereby fail to be reasonably representative thereof." 95 S.Ct. at 699, 702 (emphasis added).

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though obviously that has adverse "cross-sectional" effects. *See Lockett v. Ohio,* 98 S.Ct. 2954, 2960 (1978); *Wainwright v. Witt, supra. See also Smith v. Balkcom,* 660 F.2d 573, 578-83 (1981), *modified in other respects, reh'g en banc denied,* 671 F.2d 858 (5th Cir.), *cert. denied,* 103 S.Ct. 181 (1982); *Spinkellink v. Wainwright,* 578 F.2d 582, 592, 594-95 (5th Cir. 1978), *cert. denied,* 99 S.Ct. 2064 (1979); *Sonnier,* 720 F.2d at 407-08; *Keeten v. Garrison,* 742 F.2d 129, 133-34 (4th Cir. 1984). We have clearly rejected *Grigsby. See Watson v. Blackburn,* 756 F.2d 1055, 1056-57 (5th Cir. 1985); *Knighton v. Maggio,* 740 F.2d 1344, 1346, 1351 (5th Cir.), *cert. denied,* 105 S.Ct. 306 (1985).

And, in *Duren v. Missouri*, 99 S.Ct. 664 (1979), Justice White again speaking for the Court observed:

> "In order *to establish a prima facie violation of the fair-cross-section requirement, the defendant must show* (1) that the group alleged to be excluded is a 'distinctive' group in the community; (2) that *the representation of this group in venires* from which juries are selected *is not fair* and reasonable in relation to the number of such persons in the community; and (3) that *this underrepresentation is due to systematic* exclusion of the group in the jury-selection process.
>
> ". . . .
>
> 'Finally, in order to establish a prima facie case, it was *necessary* for petitioner to show that the underrepresentation of women, *generally and* on his venire, was due to their *systematic* exclusion in the jury-selection process." *Id.* at 668-69 (emphasis added).

See also Rabinowitz v. United States, 366 F.2d 34, 59 (5th Cir. 1966) ("The focus of the law is on the list from which the jury is drawn and not on the composition of a particular jury . . . .").

Plainly, then, the cross-section theory does not speak to the use of peremptory challenges of the *Swain* part II variety. They are not systematic, and they do not relate to the formation of the venires.

[6] The argument has been made that restricting the cross-section requirement to the venire selection process is meaningless, because juries decide cases while venires decide nothing. *See McCray*, 750 F.2d at 1128. This contention, however, ignores the vast difference in function and purpose between selection for a venire and selection for a jury. Exclusion from the venire summons process implies that the government (usually the legislative or judicial branch), in its capacity as the neutral structurer of the overall justice system, has made the general determination that those excluded are unfit to try *any* case. Exercise of the peremptory challenge, by contrast, represents the discrete decision, made by one of two or more opposed *litigants* in the trial phase of our adversary system of justice, that

the challenged venireperson will likely be more unfavorable to that litigant in that *particular case* than others on the same venire.

[7] Thus, excluding a particular cognizable group from all venire pools is stigmatizing and discriminatory in several interrelated ways that the peremptory challenge is not. The former singles out the excluded group, while individuals of all groups are equally subject to peremptory challenge on any basis, including their group affiliation. Further, venire-pool exclusion bespeaks *a priori* across-the-board total unfitness, while peremptory-strike exclusion merely suggests potential partiality in a particular isolated case. Exclusion from venires focuses on the inherent attributes of the excluded group and infers its *inferiority*, but the peremptory does not. To suggest that a particular race is unfit to judge in any case necessarily is *racially insulting*. To suggest that each race may have its own special concerns, or even may tend to favor its own, is not. For instance, it says nothing adverse, or even truly racial, about blacks to infer that they may be more likely to have greater antipathy to the Ku Klux Klan than whites. Finally, the role played by the decision maker is significant. If the neutral structurer of the system excludes a cognizable group, the exclusion necessarily represents the official judgment of *society* that the group is generally inferior. Under the adversary framework of a trial, however, *society* is neutral; neither side is favored, neither speaks for society. To be peremptorily challenged by one side or the other hence bespeaks a judgment which is neither societal nor even normative, but merely reflects the tactical determination of one contesting litigant's counsel that the challenged person is, under the discrete facts of that particular case, more likely to favor the other side.

Moreover, the operative effects of the peremptory challenge cannot be equated to those of the general exclusion from venire pools. All peremptory challenges have a "price" in other peremptories foregone. The jury drawn from a venire representative of all cognizable groups, but from which one group has been eliminated by prosecution group-based peremptory challenges, generally is more likely to be acquittal prone than a jury drawn from an otherwise similar venire that happens to include no members of that same group. In the latter instance, unlike the former, the prosecution could eliminate the most acquittal prone of the venire by using peremptory challenges it otherwise would have used to eliminate indi-

viduals affiliated with the group in question. Therefore, inclusion of a group in the venire is not "meaningless" to the end result simply because that group may be eliminated from the trial jury by peremptory challenge. Further, general systematic exclusion from venire pools allows greater ability to predict, in advance of the decision to prosecute, the composition of the jury which will try the case. If no cognizable group is excluded from the venire formation process, the decision to prosecute normally cannot be made with assurance that any given group will not be so represented on the particular venire from which the trial jury will be drawn that it cannot be eliminated by peremptory challenges (or can be eliminated only at unacceptable cost in terms of other peremptories foregone). The prosecution in this case, for example, could not have known in advance that the twenty-eight venirepersons here would not have included nine instead of six blacks, or six blacks and three others whom the prosecution would have felt it imperative to peremptorily strike.

Further, mirroring of the community's mixture of all "cognizable" groups at the actual trial-jury level is not the "be all and end all" of the jury system as we have known it. If it were, we would take steps to more nearly ensure that the composition of each individual jury roughly mirrored the community's group mixture with respect, say, to male and female, "Anglo," "Hispanic," and "Black."[19] Obviously, however, any such approach is completely contrary to the jury system as we understand and have employed it throughout our history. Indeed, the Supreme Court's decisions that the sixth amendment requires neither juries larger

[19]For example, without sacrificing random summonsing, the venire formation process could be structured to ensure that each venire roughly reflected the relative presence of such groups in the community; and jury panels could be filled by drawing from the venire's several groups in such a way as to continue this approximate division on each trial jury; further refinement would be possible by slightly changing the mix in a given fraction of juries on a rotation or similar basis. Generally speaking, however, we have made little effort even to ensure that *each* particular venire (as distinguished from venires as a whole over a period of time)—to say nothing of each actual trial jury—approximates the community's mixture of "cognizable" groups. Indeed, *Duren v. Missouri*, *supra*, indicates that the sixth amendment's cross-section requirement, even as applied to the presently conventional method of selecting venires, can be diluted on a systematic basis provided that "a significant state interest be manifestly and primarily advanced" thereby. 99 S.Ct. at 670.

than six nor unanimous verdicts, despite the general practice and long history of a unanimous jury of twelve, *Williams v. Florida*, 90 S.Ct. 1893, 1898-1900 (1970); *Johnson v. Louisiana*, 92 S.Ct. 1620, 1623, 1625 (1972) (due process); *Apodaca v. Oregon*, 92 S.Ct. 1628, 1634 (1972), necessarily bespeak the limited strength of the cross-section principle as applied even to the systematic structuring of the trial jury. Juries of six are obviously much less likely to have minority representation than juries of twelve, and unanimity obviously increases the power of the minority. The Court was plainly aware of these considerations. *See Williams*, 90 S.Ct. at 1906 & nn.46-47. This is not to say that cross-section considerations were deemed irrelevant to such systematic structuring, but merely that they were not controlling. In respect to the five-person Georgia jury system, the Court in *Ballew v. Georgia*, 98 S.Ct. 1029, 1040 (1978), stated that "the question of representation does constitute one factor of several that, when combined, create a problem of constitutional significance under the Sixth and Fourteenth Amendments." Nevertheless, *Ballew* refused to retreat from *Williams*, despite recognition that ten-percent minorities would be wholly without "representation" in over half of six-person juries, as contrasted to less than thirty percent of twelve-person juries. *Ballew*, 98 S.Ct. at 1037.[20]

[8] That factors other than those relating to the cross-section principle are important to the concept of the criminal jury is likewise reflected by the passage in *Baldwin v. New York*, 90 S.Ct. 1886,

[20]The figures given in *Ballew* indicate that a ten-percent minority would have no members in fifty-three percent of the randomly selected six-person juries, one member only in thirty-six percent of such juries, and two or more members in eleven percent; with respect to twelve-person juries, there would be none of such a minority in twenty-eight percent of the juries, one member only thirty-eight percent of the time and two or more members thirty-four percent of the time. In this connection, it should also be noted that cases following the *Wheeler* approach to peremptory strikes have held that no explanation is required of a prosecution peremptory strike or strikes eliminating the only, or the only two, blacks on the venire panel. *State v. Crespin*, 612 P.2d 716 (N.M. App. 1980) (one); *People v. Rousseau*, 129 Cal.App.3d 526, 179 Cal.Rptr. 892 (1982) (two). *But see Commonwealth v. DiMatteo*, 427 N.E.2d 754 (Mass. App. 1981) (no error in refusing defense counsel's attempted peremptory challenge of the only black on the venire, where the trial court did not credit the defense's nonracial explanation).

1890 (1970), which describes "the primary purpose of the jury" as follows:

> [T]he jury interposes between the accused and his accuser the judgment of laymen who are less tutored, perhaps than a judge or panel of judges, but who at the same time are less likely to function or appear as but another arm of the Government that has proceeded against him." (Footnote omitted.)

Similarly, *Apodaca* states:

> "[T]he purpose of trial by jury is to prevent oppression by the Government by providing a 'safeguard against the corrupt or overzealous prosecutor and against the compliant, biased, or eccentric judge.' *Duncan v. Louisiana*, 391 U.S., at 156, 88 S.Ct., at 1451. 'Given this purpose, the essential feature of a jury obviously lies in the interposition between the accused and his accuser of the commonsense judgment of a group of laymen . . .' *Williams v. Florida*, *supra*, 399 U.S., at 100, 90 S.Ct., at 1906." 92 S.Ct. at 1632-33.

The United States Constitution does not speak of a "cross section" or "representative" or similarly described jury. Of course, this does not mean that our jury system does not embrace cross-section values. But it *does* mean that such values are embraced in the context of, and are limited by, the overall concept of trial by jury. That concept, as *Swain* makes clear, includes peremptory challenges, both for individual and group characteristics, when made for the purposes of the particular case being tried. This is likewise evident from *Williams*, where Justice White, responding to the argument that the jury of six impermissibly diluted community cross-section representation, observed:

> "Even the 12-man jury cannot insure representation of every distinct voice in the community, *particularly given the use of the peremptory challenge*." *Williams*, 90 S.Ct. at 1907 (emphasis added).

The same conclusion is to be drawn from Justice White's reference in *Taylor* to the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of

1968 (Pub. L. No. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 54, 28 U.S.C. § 1861 *et seq.*) as embodying a proper recognition and implementation of the principle "that the requirements of a jury's being chosen from a fair cross section of the community is fundamental to the American system of justice." 95 S.Ct. at 697. The Act expressly provides that "no person or class or persons shall be disqualified, excluded, excused, or exempt from service as jurors: *provided*, that any person summoned for jury service may be . . . (3) excluded upon peremptory challenge as provided by law. . . ." 28 U.S.C. § 1866(c). The *Taylor* opinion also refers to the legislative history of this Act, including the House and Senate Committee Reports. *Id.* at 697 nn.7-8. The following from the House Committee Report is hence significant:

> "The act guarantees only that the jury shall be 'selected at random from a fair cross section of the community.' It does not require that at any stage beyond the initial source list the selection process shall produce groups that accurately mirror community makeup. Thus, no challenge lies on that basis.
>
> ". . . .
>
> ". . . *It should be noted, however*, that the bill does not change the method of challenging jurors at voir dire. *In particular, the bill leaves undisturbed the right of a litigant to exercise his peremptory challenges to eliminate jurors for purely subjective reasons.*" H.R. Rep. No. 1076, 90th Cong., 2d Sess., *reprinted in* 1968 U.S. Code Cong. & Ad. News 1792, 1794-95 (emphasis added).

This legislation was enacted only three years after *Swain*, and the right to peremptorily challenge for purposes of the case being tried on the basis of race or other group characteristic was then well-settled in federal prosecutions. Thus the Supreme Court in *Taylor* must have realized that Congress in 1968 included the *Swain* part II type peremptory within those "provided by law" which Congress intended to leave "undisturbed."

[9] The sixth amendment does, of course, require an "impartial" jury. This requirement of impartiality is applicable to each particu-

lar, individual jury, in each discrete case. It does not, however, imply that a party is entitled to any representative of his or her "group" on the jury.[21] even where that group is a significant one in the community where the trial takes place and from which the venire is drawn. *Taylor*, 95 S.Ct at 702 ("[N]o requirement that petit juries actually chosen must . . . reflect the various distinctive groups in the population. Defendants are not entitled to a jury of any particular composition . . . .").

What the impartiality requirement does imply is a jury *each* of whose members is willing and able to decide the case solely on the basis of the evidence introduced at trial and the instructions of the court. *See Patton v. Yount*, 104 S.Ct. 2885, 2892 n.12 (1984) ("The constitutional standard [is] that a juror is impartial only if he can lay aside his opinion and render a verdict based on the evidence presented in court."). While normally only *demonstrated* and almost complete inability to put aside extraneous considerations *requires* that a challenge for cause be sustained, and it is often "scarcely possible to avoid" jurors "whose minds are entirely uninfluenced by opinions previously formed," nevertheless the *ideal* remains jurors who will "stand perfectly indifferent between the parties" and "who fe[el] no bias either way." *Queen v. Hepburn*, 7 Cranch 290, 297-98, 3 L.Ed. 348, 350 (1813). Hence, challenge for cause may properly be sustained in instances where such action is not absolutely required. *Id.* In this connection, it is also recognized that bias—*i.e.*, lack of impartiality in the referenced sense—*may* arise because of a group characteristic. *See, e.g., Aldridge v. United States*, 51 S.Ct. 470, 472-73 & nn.1-3 (1930)[22]; *Miles v. United States*, 26 L.Ed. 481 (1881); *Queen v. Hepburn, supra; Ham v. South Carolina*, 93 S.Ct. 848, 850-51 (1973).[23] Though excusing jurors for

[21]This country has not utilized anything analogous to the ancient common-law practice under which an alien was entitled to a jury composed half of aliens and half of citizens. *See United States v. Wood*, 57 S.Ct. 177, 185 (1936).

[22]While *Aldridge* formally involved the issue of the defendant's race, not that of the jurors, it is unlikely that the question of prejudice against blacks—as in issue there—would arise with respect to a black juror. Indeed, the Court there noted that "the members of the jury were white." 51 S.Ct. at 471. Moreover, in support of its holding, *Aldridge* expressly relied on a case where the *juror's* group affiliation—membership in the Know-Nothing Party—was at issue. *Id.* at 472-73.

[23]Though extensions of *Ham* have been rejected in *Ristaino v. Ross*, 96 S.Ct. 1017, 1020 (1976), and *Rosales-Lopez v. United States*, 101 S.Ct. 1629, 1635

such bias may reduce the cross-sectionalization of the jury, we have recognized that "[a] cross-section of the fair and impartial is more desirable than a fair cross-section of the prejudiced and biased." *Smith v. Balkcom*, 660 F.2d 573, 583 (1981), *modified in other respects, reh'g en banc denied*, 671 F.2d 858 (5th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 103 S.Ct. 181 (1982).

Plainly, however, the challenge for cause is an inadequate tool for the elimination bias. To begin with, bias exists along a continuum of strength or degree; its place on that continuum will often be impossible to even roughly gauge with assurance, and will frequently depend on the circumstances of a particular case. It is both impractical and undesirable to lay down the sort of general rule implicit in the concept of challenge for cause for any but the clearest and strongest cases. This does not, however, mean that bias of a "lesser" kind has no tendency to undesirably inhibit the juror in the task of deciding the case solely on the evidence and the court's charge. *Cf. Queen v. Hepburn*, *supra*.

Moreover, even if the juror has a bias which would give rise to a proper challenge for cause, this fact may not be demonstrable. This was recognized in *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 836, as well as in a host of other decisions. *See, e.g., Hayes v. Missouri*, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351 (1887). As the New York Court of Appeals stated in *People v. McCray*, 443 N.E.2d 915, 918 (N.Y. 1982), *cert. denied*, 103 S.Ct. 2438 (1983):

> "First, jurors may be reluctant to admit their prejudices before spectators or others present in the courtroom during the *voir dire*. Second, certain prospective jurors may

(1981), these later decisions nonetheless recognize the not infrequent *desirability*—though less often the inflexible absolute necessity—of inquiry into possible group prejudice of jurors. *See Ristaino* at 1022 n.9 ("wiser course generally" is to inquire); *Rosales-Lopez* at 1636-37 (approving inquiry into prejudice against aliens). A caveat to the desirability of such an inquiry expressed in the concurring opinion of Justice Rehnquist, joined by the Chief Justice, in *Rosales-Lopez* is the concern that it "could well exacerbate whatever prejudice might exist without substantially aiding in exposing it." 101 S.Ct. at 1638. The three *Rosales-Lopez* dissenters took a broader view of the *necessity* for inquiry into the possible group prejudice of jurors. *Id.* at 1638-41.

> evade full disclosure of their prejudices in an effort to avoid being struck from the jury. Finally, other prospective jurors may simply be unaware of the existence of certain biases or prejudices they may harbor."

Further, the availability of the peremptory protects the challenge for cause by protecting against juror hostility resulting from the inquiry. *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 836; *Lewis v. United States*, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892). As expressed in *People v. McCray*:

> "Pointed questions directed at an area as sensitive as a potential juror's racial, religious or sexual biases may, even where such biases do not exist, alienate a juror against counsel and his position." 443 N.E.2d at 918.[24]

[10] Thus, the peremptory challenge plays an important role in the parties' quest for the "impartial" jury—the jury of the sixth amendment, composed of those who are willing and able to decide the case solely on the evidence and the law. As *Swain* states:

> "The function of the challenge is not only to eliminate extremes of partiality on both sides, but to assure the parties that the jurors before whom they try the case will decide on the basis of the evidence placed before them, and not otherwise." 85 S.Ct. at 835.

See also Lewis, 13 S.Ct. at 138 ("essential to the fairness of trial by jury"); *Hayes*, 7 S.Ct. at 351 ("to secure the impartiality of jurors"); *Singer v. United States*, 85 S.Ct. 783, 790 (1965) ("likely to produce a fair result"). The extent to which a juror's circumstances may affect his impartiality depends on the likelihood of the inference of bias and the strength of the bias inferred, under the facts of a particular trial, but not, *per se*, on whether the *source* of the potential bias

[24]While conduct of *voir dire* by the judge may reduce the potential for hostility, it will not remove it. *See Commonwealth v. Sanders*, 421 N.E.2d 436, 439 (Mass. 1981) (questioning along this line " 'may activiate latent racial bias in certain prospective jurors or may insult others without uncovering evidence of bias in hard-core bigots who refuse to acknowledge their prejudice' "); *Rosales-Lopez v. United States*, 101 S.Ct. 1629, 1638 (1981) (Justice Rehnquist concurring; joined by Chief Justice Burger) ("could well exacerbate whatever prejudice might exist without substantially aiding in exposing it").

is affiliation with a "cognizable" group as distinguished from all other possible sources. The potential for bias of Catholic against Ku Klux Klan is not inevitably less in every trial than that of one with long hair[25] against the police.

[11] It has been argued that one party's peremptories may exclude all of a minority group, while the other's peremptories will be insufficient to exclude the majority, with resulting unfairness to the minority party. *See Soares*, 387 N.E.2d at 516. To the extent this reasoning implies that the resulting jury is *actually* unfair to the minority party, any such unfairness is no greater—and is indeed calculated to be less, for the reasons previously noted—than that which might exist where the lack of minority representation results from venire composition due either to chance or to the paucity of minority residents in the community, from challenge for cause, or from peremptory challenge for "individual" reasons. To the extent that the argument rests on analogy to the cross-section cases, either in their equal protection or in their sixth amendment rationales, it does not take into account the previously noted differences between the venire-formation and peremptory-challenge processes.

As a justification for prohibiting all peremptory challenges based on "cognizable" group affiliation, the "elimination of the minority" rationale is also subject to other objections. "Cognizable" group classifications are not limited to those of minority and majority, but rather include classifications such as gender, national ancestry, religion and possibly economic status, respecting which the divisions in a given community may be approximately equal.[26] Nor has

[25] *Wheeler* suggests that length of hair is an "individual" characteristic on the basis of which peremptory challenge may be properly exercised. 583 P.2d at 760.

[26] Certainly the "cognizable" groups are not limited to race. Sex is included. *Taylor; Duren.* Cases following the *Wheeler* approach so recognize. *See, e.g., Commonwealth v. Reid*, 424 N.E.2d 495 (Mass. 1981) (female defendant charged with murder of male properly prohibited from using her peremptory challenges to strike all six males on the venire). Other groups are likewise generally covered. *See Commonwealth v. Gagnon*, 449 N.E.2d 686 (Mass. App. 1983) ("French" sounding last names, including "Roberts," "Christian," and "Roy"); *Soares*, 387 N.E.2d at 516 ("sex, race, color, creed or national origin"); 517 n.35 (includes those "of Italian descent"); *Wheeler*, 583 P.2d at 761 (prohibiting peremptory challenge on "racial, religious, ethnic, or similar grounds").

it been suggested that group-based peremptories are permissible against majorities but not minorities.[27] Moreover, the prohibition presumably would extend to peremptories based on minority-group affiliation even where that minority group, either because of its chance "overrepresentation" on the particular venire or some other reason, would not be wholly eliminated from the panel or even reduced significantly below its proportion in the community.[28] Indeed, the minority might not be reduced below its

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Obviously, there are no real majority or minority "sexes." There will also frequently be instances where no single religious or national origin (or ethnic) group can be said to be a majority, and all are minorities in the particular community (or the aspects of the case which relate to possible intergroup biases may involve only two minority groups). This will also at least occasionally be the case with racial groups.

But the cognizable groupings extend even further. *Theil v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 66 S.Ct. 984 (1946)—so often relied on by those opposed to *Swain* part II, *see, e.g., Booker*, slip op. at 12; *McCray*, 750 F.2d at 1127; *Wheeler*, 583 P.2d at 755-56—defines the cognizable groups which may not be systematically excluded from the pool of "prospective jurors" as being "all the economic, social, religious, racial, political and geographical groups of the community." *Theil*, 66 S.Ct. at 985. *Theil* was a civil case in which the exclusion of daily wage earners from the jury pool required reversal at the instance of a party not shown to be a member of that group. Plainly, there will be numerous instances where there is no "majority" economic, social, or geographical group in a given community.

[27]*See, e.g., Soares*, 387 N.E.2d at 517 n.35 (black defendant may not make racially based challenge against jurors of Italian descent); *Booker*, slip op. at 19-23 (black defendant's use of peremptories to strike white venirepersons); *Roman v. Abrams*, 608 F. Supp. at 631, 639-40 (prosecution's use of peremptories to exclude white venirepersons).

Further, there is no reason to assume that group-based peremptory challenges are only utilized where the challenged group can be wholly eliminated or proportionately significantly reduced. For example, in a given trial setting, group-based considerations, though present and decisive as to one or two challenges, may not be decisive as to any others, where particular "individual" characteristics may be more significant.

[28]It may be argued that the minority is "entitled" to its chance "overrepresentation" on the jury, just as it is entitled to its chance

proportion on the venire.[29]

Finally, the "elimination of the minority" argument assumes that if the prosecution strikes minority group members on the basis of their group affiliation, then majority group members inevitably must be as likely to be as conviction prone as the minority group members are acquittal prone. This, in turn, assumes that in any such situation the minority and majority are equally homogeneous and stand at opposite poles from one another with respect to their attitudes concerning the case. However, this is not necessarily so. To the contrary, as applied to a given situation the feelings among any one group may be strong and nearly unanimous, while among another group there may be both substantially more diversity and less intensity of attitude.[30]

"overrepresentation" on the venire. Again, however, this is an argument for a process, not for fairness in a given case. As an argument for a process, it fails to take into account the previously noted differences between the venire-formation and the peremptory-strike processes.

[29]If a twenty-eight-person venire panel has ten "minority" members (about thirty-six per cent of the panel), the six prosecution peremptory challenges allowed by Fed. R. Crim. P. 24(b) used against minority members will leave four of the minority. If the defense uses its ten peremptories against the majority, the resulting jury will be thirty-three percent minority, approximately the same as the panel.

The presence of those on the panel with "individually" based potential leanings one way or the other may produce a similar result. If there are six of the minority on the twenty-eight-person panel, the prosecution may use three of its peremptories on majority members based on "individual" characteristics, and its remaining three peremptories on minority members based on their group affiliation. If the defense uses its ten peremptories against members of the majority, the resulting jury will have a slightly higher minority percentage (three of twelve) than did the panel (six of twenty-eight).

[30]For example, in a given community the attitudes of blacks toward the Ku Klux Klan may well be nearly unanimous and strongly adverse, while the attitudes of whites may well be much more diverse and generally less intense across the spectrum.

And it would seem apparent that, at least in most situations, blacks are more likely to have a strong negative attitude to a witness shown to use anti-black epithets than whites are to have an equally strong positive attitude to such a witness. Nevertheless, the *Wheeler* theory has been held to prevent the party relying on such a witness from making racially based peremptory challenges of

A somewhat analogous point is made in Note, *Peremptory Challenges and the Meaning of Jury Representation*, 89 Yale L.J. 1177 (1980). This student writing convincingly argues that prosecution group-based exercise of peremptories will tend to distort trial juries away from the mean of the community's relevant attitudes *only* when such attitudes are asymmetrically distributed about the community mean and the challenged group comprises an acquittal extreme more distant from the mean than the conviction extreme. In other situations, the prosecution's use of group-based peremptories will *enhance* the tendency of the trial jury to reflect the mean of community attitudes, while in still others it will have no effect one way or the other on that tendency.[31] Significantly, "[t]here is cur-

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venirepersons belonging to the insulted group. *See People v. Johnson*, 583 P.2d 774 (Cal. 1978).

Again, an individual who is prominent in the local black community, as appellant Leslie apparently was, may well enjoy a generally favorable reputation among, or have potential for influence over, blacks of that area, but may have no reputation whatever over, blacks of that area, but may have no reputation whatever among, or potential for influence over, any significant portion of the whites. While *voir dire* might disclose some of this, nevertheless some of the venire might not realize until later that this was the man they had previously heard favorably about, or might be reluctant to speak out, or would be more susceptible to a neighbor's chance comments during trial or the like.

[31]Note, *Peremptory Challenges and the Meaning of Jury Representation*, 89 Yale L.J. 1177 (1980):

> "Suppose that the social distribution, correctly reproduced on the venire, is asymmetrical about the mean—that the extremes in favor of acquittal are farther away from the mean than the extremes in favor of conviction. Suppose further that the acquittal extreme is occupied by members of some subgroup. In this case the normal operation of the peremptory will have a disproportionate impact on members of that subgroup. More importantly, it will distort the jury's mean in favor of conviction, because the prosecution's removal of subgroup members will not be fully balanced by the defense's peremptory elimination of pro-conviction jurors. . . .
>
> "On the other hand, the social distribution might be symmetrical about the mean, with extremes on both sides equally far away. If members of a subgroup are again supposed to occupy one of the extremes, the disproportionate removal of that subgroup will have absolutely no effect on the jury's mean impact. The effect of these removals would be fully offset by the removal of jurors at the other extreme. In such a case,

rently no empirical evidence as to which distribution [of attitudes] exists in any given community for any range of cases." *Id.* at 1196.

We reaffirm our prior holdings that the group-based peremptory challenge of the kind considered in *Swain* part II is constitutional, not only under the equal protection clause but under the sixth amendment as well. This conclusion is premised on the understanding that such challenges do not run counter to, but rather form a recognized part of, the mix of values inherent in the concept of trial by jury as provided for in the sixth amendment and article III, section 2, clause 3.

Supervisory Power

[12] We decline the invitation to achieve a different result under the guise of employing our supervisory power. To begin with, the same considerations that support or oppose the constitutional challenge equally support or oppose such employment of the supervisory power. "The values assigned to the competing interests do not change because a court has elected to analyze the question under the supervisory power instead of the" sixth amendment. *United*

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a rule protecting subgroups by limiting the peremptory would shift the jury's mean away from that of society, toward the extreme at which the protected group clustered. Under these circumstances, limiting the peremptory would cause the jury to be unrepresentative. . . . Only if that subgroup is at an extreme of an asymmetrical social distribution will limiting the peremptory protect representation of the community. Otherwise, such a limitation would distort the community mean.

"Numerous other distributions of verdict impact in society can be imagined. In those that are symmetrical but that do not have a subgroup clustered at one end, both the normal and limited peremptory will have no systematic effect on the jury's mean. In those that are symmetrical but that have subgroups distributed evenly throughout, both the normal and limited peremptory will distort the jury mean toward the nearer extreme. There is currently no empirical evidence as to which distribution exists in any given community for any range of cases. In the absence of knowledge as to the actual distribution for the geographic community from which a jury is drawn, neither the normal nor the limited peremptory has a predictable, systematic effect on the jury's mean verdict impact as compared to that of society." *Id.* at 1193-96 (footnotes omitted).

States v. Payner, 100 S.Ct. 2439, 2446-47 (1980). Moreover, the numerous decisions that have left intact the prosecution's and defense's unfettered use of peremptory challenges for purposes of the particular case being tried were *not* decided on the theory that although racially based challenges are undesirable or even illegal they nevertheless are not so egregious as to be unconstitutional. Rather, those decisions were based on the determination that such unfettered use, including consideration of group affiliation, is an essential element of the peremptory challenge itself and has consistently been recognized as a proper, important and integral part of trial by jury. For us to forbid such challenges in essence "amounts to a substitution of individual judgment for the controlling decisions" of the Supreme Court and the prior panels of this Court. *See Payner*, 100 S.Ct. at 2447. As the Second Circuit said in *United States v. Newman*, 549 F.2d 240, 250 (2d Cir. 1977), it would be an "unprecedented assumption of power."

[13] In *United States v. Hasting*, 103 S.Ct. 1974, 1978-79 (1983), the Supreme Court, rejecting use of the supervisory power to avoid the harmless error rule, explained:

> "The purposes underlying use of the supervisory powers are threefold: to implement a remedy for violation of recognized rights [citations omitted]; to preserve judicial integrity by ensuring that a conviction rests on appropriate considerations validly before the jury [citations omitted]; and finally, as a remedy designed to deter illegal conduct [citation omitted]."

None of these considerations is significantly implicated here. There is no violation of recognized rights; instead, the suggested exercise of supervisory power would violate the long recognized rights of litigants to consider group affiliation in utilizing peremptory challenges for purposes of the case being tried and to do so free of judicial inquiry and control. And, as such exercise of peremptories is plainly legal, use of the supervisory power to prevent it may not be justified on the basis of deterring illegal conduct. Nor does such a use of the supervisory power in any way implicate "the considerations validly before the jury." *See also United States v. Gatto*, 763 F.2d 1040, 1046 (9th Cir. 1985) (exercise of supervisory power

proper "only when a recognized right has been violated," and even then suggesting caution).

[14] Apart from the foregoing, other considerations likewise militate against such use of the supervisory power. The prosecution has been entitled to peremptory challenges, or their equivalent, continuously since the formation of our nation, as well as for centuries prior thereto under the common law. This right has had express statutory recognition continuously from 1865 until its inclusion in Rule 24(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure effective in 1946, where to this date it has remained unchanged in any relevant particular.[32] Such a rule "has the force of a federal statute." *Sibbach v. Wilson & Co.*, 61 S.Ct. 422, 426 (1941). As previously noted, Congress in 1968, though obviously well aware of *Swain* and the long application of its principles in the federal courts, considered but elected "not [to] change the method of challenging jurors" and "in particular" determined to "leave[] undisturbed the right of a litigant to exercise his peremptory challenges." H.R. Rep. No. 1076, 90th Cong., 2d Sess., *supra*. Addressing cross-section concerns and prohibiting the exclusion of any class from jury service, Congress nevertheless excepted peremptory challenges from this prohibition and affirmatively authorized juror exclusion pursuant thereto. 28 U.S.C. § 1866(c). Nevertheless, we are asked to order a procedure which, as characterized in *Swain*, "entail[s] a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge" and is directly contrary to its "essential nature," and "wholly at odds with the peremptory challenge system."[33] The supervisory power simply does not extend to

[32]As reflected by the Advisory Committee notes pertaining to Rule 24(b), "[t]his rule embodies existing law" (with certain exceptions not here material).

These "pre-verdict" rules must be submitted to Congress during a regular session and are not effective until ninety days after such submission. 18 U.S.C. § 3771. This contrasts with "post-verdict" rules which need not be so submitted. *Id.* § 3772.

[33]*Swain* describes the peremptory challenge as " 'an arbitrary and capricious right . . . [that] must be exercised with full freedom, or it fails of its full purpose.' " 85 S.Ct. at 835 (quoting *Lewis*, 13 S.Ct. at 139), and states that:

> "The *essential* nature of the peremptory challenge is that it is one exercised without a reason stated, without inquiry and without being subject to the court's control." 85 S.Ct. at 836 (emphasis added).

making changes of that nature and magnitude in the system established by Congress and the statutory rule-making process. In *Palermo v. United States*, 79 S.Ct. 1217, 1225 n.11 (1959), the Supreme Court observed that "[t]he power of this Court to prescribe rules of procedure and evidence for the federal courts exists only in the absence of a relevant Act of Congress." There, the Court declined to expand the production requirements provided by the Jenks Act, even though that "statute does not, in so many words,

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Swain also explains that to subject such challenges to the kind of scrutiny that appellant here demands of the district court

> "would entail a *radical change* in the nature and operation of the challenge. The challenge, *pro tanto*, would no longer be peremptory, each and every challenge being open to examination, either at the time of the challenge or at a hearing afterwards. The prosecutor's judgment underlying each challenge would be subject to scrutiny for reasonableness and sincerity." *Id.* at 836-37 (emphasis added).

Swain likewise states that to "require[] an examination of the prosecutor's reasons for the exercise of his challenges in any given case," even where "all Negroes were removed from the jury . . . because they were Negroes," is to "establish a rule *wholly at odds* with the peremptory challenge system as we know it." *Id.* at 837 (emphasis added).

The *Swain* dissent similarly eschewed any rule under which "a prosecutor's motives are subject to question or judicial inquiry when he excludes Negroes or any other group from sitting on a jury in a particular case. Only where systematic exclusion has been shown, would the State be called upon to justify its use of peremptories . . . ." *Id.* at 849.

Decisions of this Court are in accord. *See Davis v. United States*, 374 F.2d at 5 ("The essential nature of the peremptory challenge is that it is one exercised without a reason stated, without inquiry and without being subjected to the Court's control."); *United States v. Pearson*, 448 F.2d at 1216 (questioning of prosecutor as to his reasons for exercising peremptories "would be inconsistent with the peremptory challenge system"); *United States v. Carlton*, 456 F.2d at 208 ("The subjective thought process of the prosecutor in deciding which prospective jurors to strike in a given case is beyond inquiry of the Court, trial or appellate . . . ."). Surely in these cases, and in the many other direct appeals of federal criminal convictions where we and other Circuits have applied *Swain*, there was ample awareness of the supervisory power. Indeed, in *Carlton* we specifically cited *Hall v. United States*, 168 F.2d 161 (D.C. Cir.), *cert. denied*, 68 S.Ct. 1509 (1948), in support of our *Swain* holding, and were presumably aware of the *Hall* dissent's express reliance on the supervisory power. *Carlton*, 456 F.2d at 208.

state that it is the exclusive, limiting means of compelling" production. *Id.* at 1223. The same considerations apply to the Rules of Criminal Procedure, which have statutory effect. *Sibbach*, 61 S.Ct. at 426. Moreover, the Supreme Court has emphasized the value placed by Congress on "the reservation of the power to examine proposed rules, laws and regulations before they become effective." *Id.* at 427. This plainly applies to pre-verdict rules of criminal procedure. *See* note 32, *supra*. We should not make an end run around that process. Indeed, even where the matter is not within an area concerning which Congress has made such a reservation of power, basic procedural innovations of great importance to litigants, as the suggested change in the peremptory challenge most certainly is, call for exercise of the statutory rule-making process. As the Supreme Court observed in *Miner v. Atlass*, 80 S.Ct. 1300, 1305-06 (1960):

> "[T]he matter is one which, though concededly 'procedural,' may be of as great importance to litigants as many a 'substantive' doctrine, and which arises in a field of federal jurisdiction where nationwide uniformity has traditionally always been highly esteemed.
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> "The problem then is one which peculiarly calls for exacting observance of the statutory procedures surrounding the rule-making powers of the Court, see 28 U.S.C. § 331, 28 U.S.C.A. § 331 (advisory function of Judicial Conference), 28 U.S.C. § 2073, 28 U.S.C.A. § 2073 (prior report of proposed rule to Congress), designed to insure that basic procedural innovations shall be introduced only after mature consideration of informed opinion from all relevant quarters with all the opportunities for comprehensive and integrated treatment which such consideration affords."[34]

[34]In *Miner* the Supreme Court refused to sustain, under former General Admiralty Rule 44 which expressly granted general rule-making authority to district courts, a local rule authorizing discovery depositions, which therefore had not been authorized in admiralty.

In *Colgrove v. Battin*, 93 S.Ct. 2448 (1973), the Supreme Court sustained a local district court rule providing for a six-person civil jury, holding that it was authorized by Fed. R. Civ. P. 83. The Court distinguished *Miner* on the ground that whether the jury was six or twelve was not a matter of "great importance

See also United States v. Isthmian Steamship Co., 79 S.Ct. 857, 862 (1959) ("if the law is to change it should be by rulemaking or legislation and not by decision").

Neither *Thiel v. Southern Pac. Co.*, 66 S.Ct. 984 (1946), nor *Ballard v. United States*, 67 S.Ct. 261 (1946), fairly supports a contrary analysis. *Ballard*, expressly, and *Thiel*, implicitly, rest on the proposition that the practices there condemned constituted "a departure from the statutory scheme." *Ballard*, 67 S.Ct. at 265 (also at 264). *See also Thiel*, 66 S.Ct. at 987 (nothing in "federal or state law" justifies the condemned practice). Here the very opposite is the case: what we are asked to decree is "a radical change" from, and "wholly at odds" with, the "essential nature" of a right expressly authorized by the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and 28 U.S.C. § 1886(c). Further, *Ballard* and *Thiel* are supported by "[t]he American tradition of trial by jury." *Thiel*, 66 S.Ct. at 985; *Ballard*, 67 S.Ct. at 263. Here we are asked to enact a practice that flies directly in the face of that tradition. Finally, *Thiel* and *Ballard* involved judicial supervision of the judiciary—the Supreme Court supervising the lower federal court-formulated venire summons practice. Here, by contrast, we are asked to intrude into decisions committed by law to the executive branch, namely, against whom should its peremptory strikes be exercised for the purpose of a par-

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to litigants." 93 S.Ct. at 2456 n.23. *Colgrove* is inapposite here for two reasons. First, *Colgrove* dealt with the exercise of expressly delegated rule-making power under Rule 83 and 28 U.S.C. § 2071. While Fed. R. Crim. P. 57 and 28 U.S.C. § 2071 authorize district courts to make rules governing the practice in criminal cases in their courts, there is no *express* delegation of power to the courts of appeals to make rules governing the practice in district courts (*cf.* Fed. R. App. P. 47). Indeed, Rule 57 concludes by expressly stating that "in all cases not provided for by rule, the district judges . . . may regulate their practice in any manner not inconsistent with these rules or those of the district in which they act." Here, our supervisory power to require district courts to regulate peremptory challenges in a certain way must arise by implication. In that circumstance, the *Miner* caution is particularly appropriate. Finally, we *do* consider the matter of freedom in the exercise of peremptory challenges for the purpose of the case being tried as something which is of "great importance to litigants." That, indeed, is clear from Justice White's opinion in *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 835. *See also Pointer v. United States*, 13 S.Ct. 136, 138 (1892); *Hayes v. Missouri*, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351 (1887).

ticular case. *Glasser v. United States*, 62 S.Ct. 457 (1942), is inapposite for all the same reasons.[35]

Moreover, the rule appellant asks us to adopt will either eviscerate the defense's use of peremptories or improperly tilt the scales of justice against the prosecution. Of course, the prosecution is entitled to a fair trial and the defense is not entitled to a jury partial in its favor. Challenges are one means to this end. *See Wainwright v. Witt*, 105 S.Ct. 844, 851-52 (1985); *Smith v. Balkcom*, 660 F.2d at 579; *Spinkellink v. Wainwright*, 578 F.2d 582, 596 (5th Cir. 1978), *cert. denied*, 99 S.Ct. 2064 (1979). The prosecution is no less entitled to the unfettered use of its allotted peremptories than the defense. As the Supreme Court said in *Hayes v. Missouri*, 7 S.Ct. 350, 351 (1887), in such matters "the scales are to be evenly held" between prosecution and defense. This view was reaffirmed in *Swain* respecting the same proffered restriction on prosecution exercise of peremptories that is at issue here. 85 S.Ct. at 835. Simi-

[35]The Eight Circuit's supervisory power decisions in this context do not persuade us to the contrary. They involve claims that the challenges were of the *Swain* part III variety, and arise out of the Eighth Circuit's "concern because of the frequency with which we have been called upon to examine the prosecutor's practices in this regard in the Western District of Missouri." *United States v. Jackson*, 696 F.2d 578, 592 (8th Cir. 1982), *cert. denied*, 103 S.Ct. 1531 (1983). *See also United States v. Greene*, 626 F.2d 75, 76-77 (8th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 101 S.Ct. 220 (1980) ("[O]n several previous occasions black defendants have attacked the conduct of the prosecutor's office in the Western District of Missouri in exercising peremptory challenges against prospective black jurors."). Thus, in *United States v. Nelson*, 529 F.2d 40, 43 (8th Cir.), *cert. denied*, 96 S.Ct. 2631 (1976), the Court affirmed the conviction in reliance on *Swain* (as it has in all other such cases), but stated, "Should the prosecutors' practices . . . continue, we are sure that the district judges in the Western District of Missouri will take appropriate action."

Similarly, in *United States v. McDaniels*, 379 F. Supp. 1243 (E.D. La. 1974), a new trial was granted on the basis of a *Swain* part III claim which was supported by an analysis of the prosecution's peremptory challenges over the past two years combined with black underrepresentation on venire lists. *Id.* at 1248-49. This Court specifically distinguished *McDaniels* on that ground in *United States v. McLaurin*, 557 F.2d at 1077 n.19. We adhere to that distinction.

Here there is not only no proof of prior practice or noncase-specific use, there is no such *claim*; indeed, appellant admits that "there is no pattern or practice in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana."

larly, in *Singer v. United States*, 85 S.Ct. 783, 790 (1965), a unanimous Court, speaking through Chief Justice Warren, stated:

> "The Constitution recognizes an adversary system as the proper method of determining guilt, and the Government, as a litigant, has a legitimate interest in seeing that cases in which it believes a conviction is warranted are tried before the tribunal which the Constitution regards as most likely to produce a fair result. This recognition of the Government's interest as a litigant has an analogy in Rule 24(b) of the federal rules, which permits the Government to challenge jurors peremptorily."

Rule 24(b) neither by its terms nor its history makes any distinction between the prosecution and defense with respect to the reasons for which peremptory challenges may be exercised. By what right, then, may we do so?

We note that every jurisdiction which has spoken to the matter, and prohibited prosecution case-specific peremptory challenges on the basis of cognizable group affiliation, has held that the defense must likewise be so prohibited. *See Wheeler*, 583 P.2d at 765 n.29 ("[T]he People no less than individual defendants are entitled to a trial by an impartial jury drawn from a representative cross-section .... [W]hen a white defendant is charged with a crime against a black victim, the black community as a whole has a legitimate interest in participating .... [T]he interest will be defeated if the prosecutor does not have the power to thwart any defense attempt to strike all blacks ...."); *Soares*, 387 N.E.2d at 517 n.35; *Commonwealth v. Reid*, 424 N.E.2d 495 (Mass. 1981); *Commonwealth v. DiMatteo*, 427 N.E.2d 754 (Mass. App. 1982); *State v. Neil*, 457 So.2d at 487 ("[B]oth the state and the defense may challenge the allegedly improper use of peremptories. The state, no less than a defendant, is entitled to an impartial jury" (footnote omitted).); *Booker v. Jabe*, *supra*, slip op. at 19-20 ("[W]e hold that under the Sixth Amendment, neither prosecutor nor defense counsel may systematically exercise peremptory challenges to excuse members of a cognizable group from service on a criminal petit jury."). *See also United States v. Clark*, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984) ("It would be hard to argue that only a defendant should be allowed to challenge racially motivated peremptory challenges.

. . . [T]he prosecutor would be allowed to object to the defendant's making racial peremptory challenges if the defendant could object to the prosecutor's doing so.").[36]

Accordingly, adoption of the position contended for by appellant seems likely to ultimately result in a serious weakening of what the Supreme Court has justly described as " 'one of the most important of the rights secured to the accused,' *Pointer v. United States*, 151 U.S. 396, 408 . . . [1894] . . . [t]he denial or impairment of . . . [which] is reversible error without a showing of prejudice. *Lewis v. United States*, supra; *Harrison v. United States*, 163 U.S. 140 . . . [1896]." *Swain*, 85 S.Ct. at 835. No longer, then, could the defendant "peremptorily challenge 'on his own dislike' ": no longer would we follow the rule that whatever "prevents or embarrasses the full, unrestricted exercise by the accused of that right must be condemned." *Pointer v. United States*, 14 S.Ct. 410, 414 (1894).[37]

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[36]Some jurisdictions following *Wheeler* have apparently not directly ruled on this question. *See State v. Crespin*, 612 P.2d at 718.

[37]Our concerns are not at all alleviated by the case-by-case type approach suggested by the panel majority, 759 F.2d at 374. Such a restriction on *Swain* part II peremptories is subject to virtually all the same objections as the apparently more rigid *Wheeler*, *Soares*, and *McCray* approach. Whatever little is thereby gained in flexibility will inevitably be lost in uncertainty and difficulty of administration. Indeed, difficulty of administration has been a major criticism of the *Wheeler* line of cases. *See, e.g., McCray*, 750 F.2d at 1140 (dissenting opinion); *United States v. Clark*, 737 F.2d 679, 682 (7th Cir. 1984) ("making the voir dire a Title VII proceeding in miniature"); *Roman v. Abrams*, 608 F. Supp. 629, 638 (S.D. N.Y. 1985) ("The transactional costs involved in litigating whether the reasons are 'pretextual' will be vast and the reliability of the results uncertain."); *Schreiber v. Salamack, supra* (approximately same facts as *Roman*, opposite result); *King v. County of Nassau*, 581 F. Supp. 493, 502 (E.D. N.Y. 1984).

Such difficulty will necessarily be greatly exacerbated by the approach taken by the panel majority which suggests that where race is taken into account in making a peremptory challenge for purposes of the case being tried this in some instances may be justified and in others may not, but suggesting no criteria for determining justification. Nor is any guidance offered on whether other cognizable groups are covered by the suggested rule, or, if so, what such groups are. Nor is there any indication whether the suggested rule extends to defendants or to civil cases. The inevitable result would be that no one—judges, lawyers, or litigants—would know which peremptories were allowed and which were not, and virtually all "peremptory" challenges would be subject to question. And

III.

Conclusion

We are persuaded that prosecution or defense peremptory challenges of the *Swain* part II variety are constitutional and lawful notwithstanding that they may be motivated in whole or in part by the challenged venireperson's race, gender, or other group affiliation, and that such motivation is not the proper subject of judicial inquiry in cases of this kind where there is no claim or reason to suspect that the challenges are not made for purposes of securing a jury favorable to the case at hand. We further decline to change this settled rule by the exercise of supervisory power, which we conclude would be both unwarranted and unwise. Hence we reject appellant Leslie's complaints respecting the prosecution's exercise of its peremptory challenges in this case, and his conviction is affirmed.

AFFIRMED.

JERRE S. WILLIAMS, Circuit Judge, with whom JOHN R. BROWN, ALVIN B. RUBIN, ALBERT TATE, and SAM D. JOHNSON, Circuit Judges, join, dissenting:

The broadly ranging and scholarly opinion for the En Banc Court focuses largely upon the issue of whether it violates the United States Constitution for a prosecutor in a state or federal case to use peremptory challenges for racially discriminatory purposes unless there is a pattern or practice of invidious discrimination shown in a number of cases. This is an exceedingly important issue. It is worthy of en banc consideration in this Court, and it is now before the United States Supreme Court in *Batson v. Kentucky*, argued Dec. 11, 1985, 54 U.S.L.W. 3445. The En Banc Court uses the *Leslie*

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with the uncertainty there would also come the less-than-candid and the self-deceptive explanations. A likely further consequence would then be a transition to the more rigid *Wheeler* approach, also encompassing defendants as it does.

case as a vehicle to confirm on this issue the Supreme Court's seminal holding in *Swain v. Alabama*, 380 U.S. 202, 85 S.Ct. 824, 13 L.Ed.2d 759 (1965).

But that is not the narrow issue posed by this case. See the panel opinion, *United States v. Leslie*, 759 F.2d 366, 373 (5th Cir. 1985). The case which is before us is a poor vehicle to carry the load of a reexamination of that fundamental issue. Indeed, the constitutional issue of *Swain* was not even raised by the defendant in this case. Simply stated, appellant's claim is that because the defendant in this federal prosecution raised the issue of possible invidious discrimination in the prosecutor's jury challenges, the district judge properly should have inquired into that issue under the exercise of his power to insure that justice be done in federal prosecutions. Because the opinion for the Court goes far beyond this narrow claim, and because the district judge erroneously denied having any power to make such an inquiry when such power is present, I am constrained to dissent.

The prosecutor in this case may have had valid and acceptable reasons to have focused his peremptory challenges upon members of the black race. The error was that the district judge refused to inquire into the prosecutor's reasons on the sweeping ground that he simply had no power under the law to do so. It is this assertion by the judge that he had no legal authority to inquire which is the only issue in the case before the Court. Insofar as the opinion for the Court can be read as denying that power to the district court, I insist that it is incorrect as established by well-developed and recognized legal principles.

To make the issue clear, suppose in this case that upon inquiry by the district judge the prosecutor had said something to the effect that he challenged the blacks because he did not like blacks, he did not think they are fit to sit in any case, and regardless of the nature of the case he had intentionally used the challenges to engage in racial discrimination. Under the analysis of the district judge and the majority of this Court, the holding would be that the district judge had no power to take any action to remedy this blatant racial discrimination. A fair trial to this particular defendant would be sacrificed on the altar of requiring a pattern or practice of discrimination proved statistically over a number of cases later to follow. I

cannot conceive that the majority of this Court would hold if a prosecutor made such a statement in open court explaining his peremptory challenges that he was acting within his right.

The panel opinion made clear it was not barring all racial consideration in vior dire examination and in the use of peremptory challenges. *United States v. Leslie*, 759 F.2d at 374. There was no negation of a power in the prosecutor and the discretion in the district judge to allow challenges seemingly on a racial basis which have rational explanations. It must be stressed again that the only issue arises because the federal district court took the position that it had no power to make such an inquiry of a prosecutor.

It is well here to be reminded of the classic definition of the federal prosecutor's role given by the Supreme Court in the case of *Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 55 S.Ct. 629, 79 L.Ed. 1314 (1935). In that case the Court reversed a federal conviction on the ground that the government prosecutor had overstepped the bounds of propriety and fairness in the prosecution of the case. The Supreme Court explained the nature of the prosecutor's duty and the values the duty is designed to effect:

> The United States Attorney is a representative not of an ordinary party to the controversy, but of a sovereignty whose obligation to govern impartially is as compelling as its obligation to govern at all; and whose interest, therefore, in a criminal prosecution is not that it shall win a case, but that justice shall be done. As such, he is in a peculiar and very definite sense the servant of the law, the twofold aim of which is that *guilt shall not escape or innocence suffer*. He may prosecute with earnestness and vigor—indeed, he should do so. But, while he may strike hard blows, he is not at liberty to strike foul ones. *It is as much his duty to refrain from improper methods calculated to produce a wrongful conviction as it is to use every legitimate means to bring about a just one.*

Id. at 88, 55 S.Ct. at 633 (emphasis added). The panel opinion set out this quotation and then went on to quote from several other cases of this Court. For example, in *United States v. Corona*, 551 F.2d 1386, 1391 (5th Cir. 1977), we said that a prosecutor must

"conduct criminal trials with an acute sense of fairness and justice." Then in *United States v. Beckett*, 706 F.2d 519, 521 n.5 (5th Cir. 1983), we said that the cherished title "United States Attorney" is not a hunting license which exempts its holder from the ethical constraints of advocacy.

One other important and well-known introductory proposition must be stated. Although the historical roots of the peremptory challenge in the American system of justice run deep, peremptory challenges are not commanded by the United States Constitution. *See McCray v. New York*, 461 U.S. 961, 103 S.Ct. 2438, 2442 n.7, 77 L.Ed.2d 1322 (Marshall, J., dissenting from denial of certiorari); *Rosales-Lopez v. United States*, 451 U.S. 182, 188 n.6, 101 S.Ct. 1629, 1634 n.6, 68 L.Ed.2d 22 (1981); *Swain*, 380 U.S. at 219, 85 S.Ct. at 835. Yet, while peremptory challenges do not have constitutional foundation, the principle which competes with the peremptory challenge in this case, the prohibition against racial discrimination, is solidly grounded in the Constitution. We should at least be wary of exalting a procedure not protected by the Constitution over a clearly established constitutional principle. Even *Swain* clearly stands for the proposition that peremptory challenges are not wholly immune from constitutional implications. *Swain* holds that the use of peremptory challenges for racially discriminatory purposes as a pattern or practice violates the Constitution. The peremptory challenge is not an untouchable, as the basic thrust of the en banc opinion would have us believe.

With this preliminary statement of the issue which is actually before this Court, I now turn my attention to whether the supervisory power of the federal courts, based upon a long and honorable history, can fairly be said to support the proposition that in order to insure a fair trial, we can direct a district court to inquire into the motives of prosecutors in exercising peremptory challenges when claim is made that they may be exercising that power with invidious racially discriminatory motives.

The remainder of this opinion is directed at showing that the panel acted properly and justifiably in invoking the supervisory power of this Court. The role and the scope of the supervisory power are delineated by establishing four basic propositions. Taken together, these propositions, in my view, clearly demonstrate the

correctness of the holding of the panel majority. First, this Court possesses broad supervisory powers over lower courts. Second, there is no doubt that the supervisory powers of federal courts may be used to correct injustices which do not amount to constitutional or statutory violations. Third, the supervisory power—encompassing broadly several forms of deterrence of prosecutorial misconduct—is appropriate on the facts of the present case. Fourth, although Congress undoubtedly has the right to override supervisory power rulings through legislation, Congress has not spoken with respect to the narrow holding of the panel. Each proposition is discussed in turn.

First, the federal appellate courts possess broad supervisory powers. The supervisory power doctrine was articulated over four decades ago in *McNabb v. United States*, 318 U.S. 332, 63 S.Ct. 608, 87 L.Ed. 819 (1943). As the en banc majority notes, the supervisory power allows courts to "preserve judicial integrity by insuring that a conviction rests upon appropriate considerations validly before the jury." *United States v. Hasting*, 461 U.S. 499, 505, 103 S.Ct. 1974, 1978, 76 L.Ed.2d 96 (1983). This power has been invoked in a "surprising variety of situations. The commentators have uniformly marveled at how flexible and extensive the supervisory power is." Imwinkelried, *United States v. Payner and the Still Unanswered Questions About the Federal Courts' Supervisory Power Over Criminal Justice*, 7 J. Crim. Def. 1, 9 (1981); *see also* Beale, *Reconsidering Supervisory Power in Criminal Cases: Constitutional and Statutory Limits on the Authority of the Federal Courts*, 84 Colum. L. Rev. 1433 (1984); Hill, *The Bill of Rights and the Supervisory Power*, 69 Colum. L. Rev. 181 (1969); Comment, *Judicially Required Rulemaking as Fourth Amendment Policy: An Applied Analysis of the Supervisory Power of Federal Courts*, 72 Nw. U. L. Rev. 595, 596 (1977); Note, *The Judge-Made Supervisory Power of the Federal Courts*, 53 Geo. L. J. 1050, 1078 (1965).

Courts have applied the supervisory power to announce new jury selection standards for civil actions, and even to establish standards for administrative hearings. *See Thiel v. Southern Pacific Co.*, 328 U.S. 217, 66 S.Ct. 984, 90 L.Ed. 1181 (1946); *Woodby v. I.N.S.*, 385 U.S. 276, 87 S.Ct. 483, 17 L.Ed.2d 362 (1966). The Supreme Court has used its supervisory power to reverse convictions supported by false evidence, to curtail improper practices by federal

attorneys, to suppress evidence government agents gained through misconduct, to preserve a criminal contemner's right to a jury trial, and to protect a defendant from an overzealous district court judge. *See United States v. Leslie*, 759 F.2d at 371 (panel opinion citing extensive list of cases). The courts have also used the supervisory power to control conduct within the grand jury room, *see e.g. United States v. Hogan*, 712 F.2d 757 (2d Cir. 1983), and to control the conduct of both prosecutors and police outside the court room. *United States v. Martin*, 480 F. Supp. 880 (S.D. Tex. 1979). The Supreme Court has also used the supervisory power to prevent the exclusion from jury service of members of distinctive groups of the community. *Thiel*, 328 U.S. at 217, 66 S.Ct. at 984, 90 L.Ed. at 1181 (daily wage earners); *Ballard v. United States*, 329 U.S. 187, 67 S.Ct. 261, 91 L.Ed. 181 (1946) (women).[1]

These examples show a supervisory power so broad and extensive that any attempt at an all-inclusive definition must necessarily fail. *See* Note, 53 Geo. L. J. at 1050 ("The variety of situations in which [the supervisory power] has been invoked defies any attempt to construct a definition of supervisory power which is at once comprehensive and accurate. . . . The sole common denominator of its usage is a desire to maintain and develop standards of fair play in the federal courts more exacting than the minimum constitutional requirements of due process."). The reason for such a broad power is that the courts must be given the ability to preserve the integrity of the judicial system. *Hasting*, 461 U.S. at 505, 103 S.Ct. at 1978. Thus, it is no wonder that "[t]he Supreme Court undoubtedly possesses an historical power of supervision over its inferior courts; in the absence of legislative action, its power to correct lower federal court procedures deemed unfair or unjust seem subject to no sub-

[1]The en banc majority attempts to distinguish *Thiel* on the theory that "the practices there condemned constituted 'a departure from the statutory scheme.'" Slip op. at 3931 (quoting *Ballard*). The flaw in this asserted "distinction" is that the decision in *Thiel* was *expressly made on supervisory power grounds, not statutory grounds. See Thiel*, 328 U.S. at 225, 227, 66 S.Ct. at 988, 989 (The majority stated that its holding rested upon "our power of supervision over the administration of justice in the federal courts"). The dissent agreed that the "problem is one of judicial administration." In *Ballard*, 329 U.S. at 192, 67 S.Ct. at 263, the Court also stated that *Thiel* rested on supervisory power grounds.

stantial limitations." Note, *The Supervisory Power of the Federal Courts*, 76 Harv. L. Rev. 1656 (1963).

This Court possesses supervisory power over district courts coextensive with that possessed by the Supreme Court. "[E]very Court of Appeals . . . that has confronted the issue" has laid claim to the supervisory power. *Burton v. United States*, 483 F.2d 1182, 1187 (9th Cir. 1973) (citing numerous federal decisions); *see also Cupp v. Naughten*, 414 U.S. 141, 146, 94 S.Ct. 396, 400, 38 L.Ed.2d 368 (1973) (recognizing the lower courts' exercise of the supervisory power); Imwinkelried, *supra* at 3; Beale, *supra* at 1455 ("[B]oth the Supreme Court and the lower federal courts have generally assumed that these courts possess supervisory authority in their own circuits or districts like that wielded by the Supreme Court on a nationwide level.").

Thus, it must be concluded beyond dispute that the first proposition is established. This Court possesses a broad authority to correct lower court procedures under our supervisory power.

The second proposition is that the supervisory power exists to correct injustices which do not amount to statutory or constitutional violations. There is no serious doubt that this is the case. The Supreme Court held in *McNabb:* "[T]he scope of our reviewing power over convictions brought here from the federal courts is not confined to ascertainment of Constitutional validity. Judicial supervision of the administration of criminal justice in the federal courts . . . [is] not satisfied merely by observance of . . . minimal [constitutional] safeguards. . . ." 318 U.S. at 340, 63 S.Ct. at 613. The Court has steadfastly adhered to the notion that the supervisory power is an appropriate tool to correct injustices which do not amount to constitutional or statutory violations. *See, e.g., Hasting*, 461 U.S. at 505, 103 S.Ct. at 1978 ("[F]ederal courts may, within limits, formulate procedural rules not specifically required by the Constitution or the Congress . . . to preserve judicial integrity. . . ."); *Cupp*, 414 U.S. at 146, 94 S.Ct. at 400 ("[T]he appellate court . . . may likewise require [the trial court] to follow procedures deemed desirable from the viewpoint of sound judicial

practice although in no-wise commanded by statute or by the Constitution.'").[2]

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[2]The fact that the supervisory power is used in the federal courts to correct injustices not amounting to constitutional violations is graphically illustrated by comparing *Marshall v. United States*, 360 U.S. 310, 79 S.Ct. 1171 (1959) with *Murphy v. Florida*, 421 U.S. 794, 95 S.Ct. 2031, 44 L.Ed.2d 589 (1975). In both cases jurors had been exposed to newspaper stories relating that the defendant, who did not testify, had been convicted previously of serious offenses. In both cases the exposed jurors swore to the satisfaction of the judge that they would not be influenced by the news articles and would decide the case only on the evidence. In *Marshall* the Court reversed the federal defendant's conviction, but in *Murphy*, decided 15 years later, the Court affirmed the state defendant's conviction. The *Murphy* opinion made the distinction clear. The Court said that the supervisory power applies only to federal prosecutions. The Supreme Court reversed Marshall's conviction " '[i]n the exercise of [its] supervisory power to formulate and apply proper standards for enforcement of the criminal law in the federal courts,' and not as a matter of constitutional compulsion. . . . We cannot agree that *Marshall* has any application beyond the federal courts." *Murphy*, 421 U.S. at 797, 95 S.Ct. at 2035.

A similar pair of contrasting cases involving juror fairness is *Aldridge v. United States*, 283 U.S. 308, 51 S.Ct. 470 (1931) and *Ristaino v. Ross*, 424 U.S. 589, 96 S.Ct. 1017, 47 L.Ed.2d 258 (1976). In both cases the black defendant was accused of killing a white police officer. In both cases the defendant requested, but was refused, voir dire examination directed to racial prejudice. The Court reversed the conviction of the federal defendant in *Aldridge*; it affirmed the conviction of the state defendant in *Ristaino*. The distinction again made was the difference between constitutional and supervisory jurisprudence:

> Although we hold that *voir dire* questioning directed to racial prejudice was not constitutionally required, the wiser course generally is to propound appropriate questions designed to identify racial prejudice if requested by the defendant. Under our supervisory power we would have required as much of a federal court faced with the circumstances here.

Ristaino, 424 U.S. at 597 n.9, 96 S.Ct. at 1022 n.9.

Because *Swain* was a state prosecution, the supervisory power was not available on the facts of that case. Thus, the fact that *Swain* held that inquiry into the prosecutor's motives was not constitutionally compelled gave no answer at all to the question of whether a federal court should attempt to effect some moderating influence on the practice by resort to its authority in "the formulation and application of proper standards for the enforcement of the *federal* criminal law in the *federal* courts." *McNabb*, 318 U.S. at 341, 63 S.Ct. at 613.

This proposition is critical to an understanding of the difference between this dissent and the en banc majority. The basic thrust of the en banc majority appears to be that court or defense inquiry into the prosecutor's reasons for making a peremptory strike is not a constitutional right. Since the supervisory power is a separate body of law, the constitutional arguments are not dispositive. Nor is this distinction between constitutional rights and supervisory power rulings merely a distinction without a difference. Unlike constitutional decisions supervisory power rulings affect only the federal courts, and are subject to legislative override. As noted by Professor Beale:

> Courts employing supervisory power have generally felt relatively free to adopt rules intended to promote what the courts identify as the ends of justice and good public policy. Supervisory power has proven to be an attractive vehicle for rulings that the federal courts might have been more hesitant to ground on a constitutional theory. Supervisory power rulings pose no risk of friction between the federal and state courts since by definition such rulings apply only in federal proceedings. Moreover, if a supervisory power ruling proves to be impractical or otherwise undesirable, it is far easier to alter than a constitutional decision. Supervisory power rulings may be freely revised by the courts themselves, and they are also subject to revision by legislation. As a result, supervisory power rulings have been employed to impose more rigorous standards in federal proceedings than the minimal standards imposed by the Constitution.

Beale, 84 Colum. L. Rev. at 1434. Moreover, the supervisory power is designed to protect recognizable institutional goals in the federal courts. "The use of supervisory powers supports two institutional goals: deterring future prosecutorial misconduct and maintaining the integrity of the judicial process. These goals are separate from the goal of protecting a defendant's constitutional right to a fair trial." Note, *The Exercise of Supervisory Powers to Dismiss a Grand Jury Indictment—A Basis for Curbing Prosecutorial Misconduct*, 45 Ohio St. L. J. 1077, 1084 (1984); *see also United States v. Sears, Roebuck Co.*, 719 F.2d 1386, 1394 (9th Cir. 1983) (Norris, J. dissenting in part), *cert. denied*, 104 S.Ct. 1441 (1984).

It is clear, therefore, that this Court possesses the supervisory power to correct injustices which are neither constitutional nor statutory violations. The use of the supervisory power does not constitute an "end run" around the Constitution, but rather rests upon the firm policy grounds of allowing the Court to preserve the integrity of the federal judicial system without making a ruling carrying the baggage of a constitutional decision.[3]

The third proposition is that the supervisory power is appropriately applied to the facts of the present case. As noted above, the supervisory power is broadly available to insure the integrity of the judicial process. It cannot seriously be doubted that excluding blacks from juries motivated purely by invidious racial discrimination, and for no other reason, is an anathema to the concept of a fair judicial system. As one commentator has noted:

> A peremptory challenge exercised on the sole ground of group affiliations suggests that a particular juror is unfit to give the defendant a fair trial, not because of her own idiosyncratic prejudices, but rather as the inevitable consequence of group antagonism. This assumption perpetuates stereotypes that are no longer tolerated in any other area of the law.

Note, *The Defendant's Right to Object to Prosecutorial Misuse of the Peremptory Challenge* 92 Harv. L. Rev. 1770, 1781 (1979); *see also Smith v. Texas*, 311 U.S. 128, 130, 61 S.Ct. 164, 165, 85 L.Ed. 84

[3]The en banc majority cites *United States v. Payner*, 447 U.S. 727, 100 S.Ct. 2439, 65 L.Ed.2d 468 (1980), for the proposition that " '[t]he values assigned to the competing interests do not change because a court has elected to analyze the question under the supervisory power instead of the' sixth amendment." Slip op. at 3926 (quoting *Payner*). The *Payner* decision, however, does nothing to limit the scope of the supervisory power available in the present case. *Payner* held only that the supervisory power could not be invoked to exclude evidence seized from a third party not before the court. *Id.* at 753, 100 S.Ct. at 2446. The *Payner* majority distinguished supervisory power cases cited by the dissent on the ground that "none of those cases involved criminal defendants who were not themselves the victims of the challenged practices." *Id.* at 735 n.8, 100 S.Ct. at 2446 n.8. In the present case, there is no issue involving the use of supervisory powers to aid parties not before this Court. The *Payner* Court specifically stated that "our decision today does not limit the traditional scope of the supervisory power in any way, nor does it render that power " 'superfluous' ". *Id.*

(1940) ("For racial discrimination to result in the exclusion from jury service of otherwise qualified groups . . . is at war with our basic concepts of a democratic society and a representative government.").

The supervisory power has been used countless times to deter myriad instances of prosecutorial misconduct. *See e.g., United States v. Leslie*, 759 F.2d at 371 (citing several examples of use of supervisory power over prosecutors). In our criminal justice system, a prosecutor "is both an administrator of justice and an advocate. . . . [His] duty . . . is to seek justice, not merely to convict." 1 ABA, *Standards for Criminal Justice* 3-1.1(b) & (c) (1980); *see also Berger v. United States*, 295 U.S. 78, 55 S.Ct. 628, 79 L.Ed. 1314 (1935). Obviously, there is no place for invidious racial discrimination in the administration of justice. The supervisory power is an appropriate vehicle for insuring that a prosecutor carries out his ethical obligations. *See e.g., United States v. Serubo*, 604 F.2d 807, 818 (3d Cir. 1979). We cannot know what were the prosecutor's motives in the present case because the judge did not inquire. That is precisely the reason that the panel held that our supervisory power must be used to compel an answer from the prosecutor on the facts of this case.[4]

[4]The en banc majority's argument that the supervisory power is not appropriate on the facts of this case because this case involves use of the power against the executive branch—namely, the prosecutor—rather than against a judicial officer is unpersuasive. The supervisory power has been used countless times against executive officers. In fact, *McNabb* itself used the supervisory power to suppress evidence in order to deter unlawful conduct of executive officials. As one commentator has noted:

> *McNabb* cannot be confined within a definition of the supervisory power which does not transcend elementary notions of judicial housekeeping. The behavior which invoked exclusion was not that of judicial officers, but that of the police. Furthermore, it occured at a time substantially prior to the trial itself.

Note, 76 Harv. L. Rev. at 1661; *see also* Hill, 69 Colum. L. Rev. at 203 ("It is disingenuous to assert that no infringement upon executive prerogatives is involved when the courts do no more than withhold the process that is invoked by the executive in a criminal prosecution."). Space limitations do not allow a citiation to every supervisory power case in which executive, rather than judicial, misconduct was being deterred. *See e.g. United States v. Leslie*, 759 F.2d at 371 (several cases cited).

The en banc majority mis-characterizes the holding of the panel when it argues that this use of the supervisory power is inappropriate because it constitutes a "radical" change from preexisting law. As support for that assertion, the en banc majority cites *Swain*. *See* slip op. at 3928. *Swain*, however, held that inquiry into the motives of the prosecutor was not a *constitutional* right. *Swain*, 380 U.S. at 222, 85 S.Ct. at 837 ("[W]e cannot hold that *the Constitution* requires an examination of the prosecutor's reasons for the exercise of his challenges in any given case.") (emphasis added). *Swain* has nothing to do with the supervisory power of this Court.[5] Indeed, on the facts of *Swain*, the Court could not have had any effect upon supervisory power jurisprudence, because *Swain* was a state prosecution, and the supervisory power as has already been pointed out applies only in federal prosecutions. *Cupp*, 414 U.S. at 146, 94 S.Ct. at 400, 38 L.Ed.2d 368.

Other courts have exercised their supervisory authority to ensure that federal prosecutors do not employ peremptory challenges to engage in racial discrimination. For example, in *United States v. McDaniels*, 379 F. Supp. 1243 (E.D. La. 1974), my brother Rubin, then a district judge, granted a new trial under Rule 33 "in the interest of justice" because the prosecutor used all six of his per-

[5]The en banc majority quotes extensively from *Swain* in its discussion of the supervisory power at slip op., 3928-29 n.33. Several *Swain* quotations are used in such a way that the impression might be given that *Swain* held that the use of supervisory power in the manner of the panel opinion would entail a radical change from pre-existing peremptory challenge law. *Swain* did not so hold.

For example, n.33 of the en banc majority reads:

> *Swain* also explains that to subject such challenges *to the kind of scrutiny that appellant here demands* (emphasis added) of the district court "would entail a *radical change* in the nature and operation of the challenge. . ." (quoting *Swain*).

The en banc majority's quotation from *Swain* omits the first few words of the sentence. The entire sentence actually reads "To subject the prosecutor's challenge in any particular case to *the demands and traditional standards of the equal protection clause* would entail a radical change in the nature and operation of the challenge." Thus, the quotation in Swain was discussing the challenge under the equal protection clause, not the use of supervisory power. *See McNabb*, 318 U.S. at 340, 63 S.Ct. at 613; Note, 45 Ohio St. L. J. at 1084 (constitutional challenge distinct from supervisory power challenge).

emptory challenges against blacks.[6] Likewise, in *United States v. Jackson*, 696 F.2d 578 (8th Cir. 1982), *cert. denied*, 460 U.S. 1073, 103 S.Ct. 1531, 75 L.Ed.2d 952 (1983), the trial judge issued an order granting the defendant's motion "to prevent the use of peremptory challenges by the prosecution to strike black or other minority members from the jury . . . unless the government can show good reason why a black or other minority member should be stricken. . . ." The Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals specifically approved this use of the supervisory power. *Id.* at 592-93.[7]

Also relevant is the recent case of *United States v. Campbell*, 766 F.2d 26 (1st Cir. 1985). This case involved an objection by the defendant to the federal prosecutor's use of a peremptory challenge to strike a black from his jury. District Judge Keeton at the trial held a hearing on defendant's objection, and he personally questioned the prosecutor as to his motives in exercising the challenge. The district judge concluded that the government's purpose in the challenge was not racially motivated. The Court of Appeals, without specifically approving or disapproving the district judge's procedure, upheld the conviction on the ground that the finding of the district judge exonerating the prosecutor from misuse of the chal-

[6]The en banc majority's undertaking to distinguish *McDaniels* is far short of adequate. The majority states that in *McDaniels* "a new trial was granted on the basis of a *Swain* part III claim [*i.e.*, systematic exclusion of blacks] which was supported by [statistical evidence]." Yet Judge Rubin specifically held that the *Swain* test *had not been met*. *McDaniels*, 379 F. Supp. at 1248: "The defendant here has failed to show the 'systematic exclusion' of blacks prohibited . . . in *Swain*." Judge Rubin granted the new trial "in the interest of justice" *despite* the failure of the *Swain* challenge. *Id.* at 1249.

The majority goes on to say that "this Court specifically distinguished *McDaniels* on that ground in *United States v. McLavin*, 557 F.2d at 1077 n.19." In *McLavin*, this Court held that the district court did not abuse its discretion in not ordering a new trial "in the interest of justice." There was no statistical evidence but also there was a failure "to demonstrate—or even to offer to demonstrate—that the government had excluded the potential jurors in question for racial reasons." 557 F.2d at 1064. While the Court did make reference to the aid given Judge Rubin by statistical evidence, nowhere does *McLavin* distinguish *McDaniels* as resting upon *Swain* part III grounds.

[7]The en banc majority again attempts to distinguish *Jackson* as resting upon a successful *Swain* part III challenge. Slip op. at 3932 n.35. It is clear, however, that *Jackson* did *not* rest upon *Swain* grounds. *See* 696 F.2d at 593 n.9 (defendant did not even attempt to make a *Swain* III showing).

lenge by racial motivation was well supported in the record. This holding made inquiry into the application of the *Swain* rule unnecessary.

It is apparent that an attempt to eliminate the ugly spectre of invidious racial discrimination from the federal courts is an appropriate use of the supervisory power.

The fourth premise is that Congress has not spoken on the narrow issue which was the holding of the panel. The en banc majority contends that Congress through contrary legislation has effectively precluded our use of the supervisory power in a peremptory challenge case. The en banc opinion cites Rule 24(b) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968, 28 U.S.C. § 1861 *et seq.* Neither of these congressional actions discusses the issue of whether the judge has the power to make inquiry of the prosecutor's reasons for striking blacks when requested by the defendant. The en banc opinion erroneously attempts to characterize the panel holding broadly—as creating a right for the defendant to prevent the prosecutor from taking racial factors into account in his peremptory strikes—and then proceeds to strike down this "straw man" with congressional enactments.[8] Neither of these congressional enactments, however, even remotely mentions whether a defendant may be permitted to inquire into a prosecutor's motive for striking all blacks from a jury panel.

Rule 24(b) speaks only to the number of peremptory challenges. It goes no further and does not define what is meant by "peremptory," whether peremptories might not be subject to limited review and supervision by the court, nor whether there might

[8]For example, the en banc majority cites *Miner v. Atlass*, 363 U.S. 641, 80 S.Ct. 1300 (1960), for the proposition that rules of "great importance to litigants" should be reserved for congressional decision. The majority then states that the peremptory challenge system is a matter of great importance to litigants. I do not disagree. Given the panel's holding, however, the *proper question* is whether the right to refuse to give a reason when invidious racial discrimination is suspected in exercising peremptory strikes is a matter of "great importance to litigants." I submit that no one has any legitimate interest in furthering invidious racial discrimination. A refusal to provide a non-invidious reason intrinsically must be a matter "of great importance" to a litigant.

not be some point beyond which the exercise of peremptories passes beyond "arbitrary" into "intolerable". Congress has never legislatively defined what a peremptory challenge is in the federal system. It is clear that Rule 24(b) speaks only to the number of peremptory strikes allowed, and has absolutely no substantive content regarding the definition or use of peremptory strikes.[9]

Nor does the Federal Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968 constitute congressional preemption of the panel's use of the supervisory power. The primary function of that law is to prevent discrimination in jury panels; thus, the Act focuses on the means of compiling jury lists and on juror qualifications, and it provides an "exclusive" mechanism for challenge which shuts down once "voir dire examination begins." 28 U.S.C. § 1867(a). Peremptory challenges and challenges for cause are mentioned only incidentally, and are reaffirmed as operating outside of the act as "provided by law."[10] In other words, the act says nothing substantive at all about the law, the practice, the definition, or the outer limits of the peremptory challenge.[11]

[9]The conclusion that Rule 24(b) has no substantive content is apparent by examining Rule 24(a) jurisprudence. Rule 24(a) specifies who may conduct the voir dire, and if the judge chooses to do so, how supplemental questions by the parties are to be asked to the jurors. Under the en banc majority's view, Congress has certainly "legislated" in the area of voir dire just as it has "legislated" in the area of peremptory strikes, so the supervisory power would not be available in either instance. But this is not so. The Supreme Court has used its supervisory power to require that voir dire questions on racial prejudice be asked. *Aldridge v. United States*, 283 U.S. 308, 51 S.Ct. 470 (1931). This practice was approved in *Ristaino v. Ross*, 424 U.S. 589, 597 n.9, 96 S.Ct. 1017, 1022 n.9, 47 L.Ed.2d 258 (1976).

[10]Subsections (3) and (4) of the provision in 28 U.S.C. § 1866(c) specify "[t]hat any persons summoned for jury service may be . . . (3) excluded upon peremptory challenge *as provided by law*, or (4) excluded pursuant to the procedure *specified by law* upon a challenge by a party for good cause shown. . . ." (emphasis added).

[11]The en banc opinion refers to H. R. Rep. No. 1076, 90th Cong., 2d Sess., reprinted in 1968 U.S. Code Cong. & Admin. News 1792, 1795, for the following quotation: "[T]he bill leaves undisturbed the right of the litigant to exercise his peremptory challenges . . ." The comment adds nothing substantive to what is "provided by law" for peremptory practices. This dissent could equally cite the following passage in the House Committee Report, at 1797, and yet not advance my legal argument either:

The panel majority held narrowly and precisely that when requested by a defendant the district court had the power to ask a prosecutor for his reasons for striking all blacks from a jury panel. That is all. This Court undoubtedly has the broad supervisory power to require such an inquiry in appropriate instances. This is a proper use of the supervisory power because it will on its face promote the interests of justice. Congress has not spoken on this question. In dissenting, therefore, I adhere to the holding of the panel. I find the broad sweep of the majority opinion uncalled for in this case. I further find justified the precise use of supervisory power to insist that a district court can inquire into suspected racial discrimination in the use of peremptory challenges by government prosecutors. Ugly in its practice and insidious in its effects, invidious racial discrimination deserves no protection in any area of society, least of all in the administration of justice in the federal courts.

Jury performance will be enhanced as well by closer approximation of the cross sectional goal under the bill. It must be remembered that the jury is designed not only to understand the case, but also to reflect the community's sense of justice in deciding it. As long as there are significant departures from the cross sectional goal, biased jurors are the result—biased in the sense that they reflect a slanted view of the community they are supposed to represent.

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Rule 2. Purpose and Construction

These rules are intended to provide for the just determination of every criminal proceeding. They shall be construed to secure simplicity in procedure, fairness in administration and the elimination of unjustifiable expense and delay.

Rule 24. Trial Jurors

(a) Examination. The court may permit the defendant or his attorney and the attorney for the government to conduct the examination of prospective jurors or may itself conduct the examination. In the latter event the court shall permit the defendant or his attorney and the attorney for the government to supplement the examination by such further inquiry as it deems proper or shall itself submit to the prospective jurors such additional questions by the parties or their attorneys as it deems proper.

(b) Peremptory Challenges. If the offense charged is punishable by death, each side is entitled to 20 peremptory challenges. If the offense charged is punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, the government is entitled to 6 peremptory challenges and the defendant or defendants jointly to 10 peremptory challenges. If the offense charged is punishable by imprisonment for not more than one year or by fine or both, each side is entitled to 3 peremptory challenges. If there is more than one defendant, the court may allow the defendants additional peremptory challenges and permit them to be exercised separately or jointly.

(c) Alternate Jurors. The court may direct that not more than 6 jurors in addition to the regular jury be called and impanelled to sit as alternate jurors. Alternate jurors in the order in which they are called shall replace jurors who, prior to the time the jury retires to consider its verdict, become or are found to be unable or disqualified to perform their duties. Alternate jurors shall be drawn in the same manner, shall have the same qualifications, shall be subject to the same examination and challenges, shall take the same oath and shall have the same functions, powers, facilities and privileges as the regular jurors. An alternate juror who does not replace a regular juror shall be discharged after the jury retires to consider its verdict. Each side is entitled to 1 peremptory challenge in addition to those otherwise allowed by law if 1 or 2 alternate jurors are to be impanelled, 2 peremptory challenges if 3 or 4 alternate jurors are to be impanelled, and 3 peremptory challenges if 5 or 6 alternate jurors are to be impanelled. The additional peremptory challenges may be used against an alternate juror only, and the other peremptory challenges allowed by these rules may not be used against an alternate juror.

As amended Feb. 28, 1966, eff. July 1, 1966.

§ 1861. Declaration of policy

It is the policy of the United States that all litigants in Federal courts entitled to trial by jury shall have the right to grand and petit juries selected at random from a fair cross section of the community in the district or division wherein the court convenes. It is further the policy of the United States that all citizens shall have the opportunity to be considered for service on grand and petit juries in the district courts of the United States, and shall have an obligation to serve as jurors when summoned for that purpose.

(As amended Sept. 9, 1957, Pub.L. 85-315, Part V, § 152, 71 Stat. 638; Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 54.)

§ 1862. Discrimination prohibited

No citizen shall be excluded from service as a grand or petit juror in the district courts of the United States or in the Court of International Trade on account of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or economic status.

(As amended Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 54; Oct. 10, 1980, Pub.L. 96-417, Title III, § 302(c), 94 Stat. 1739.)

§ 1863. Plan for random jury selection

(a) Each United States district court shall devise and place into operation a written plan for random selection of grand and petit jurors that shall be designed to achieve the objectives of sections 1861 and 1862 of this title, and that shall otherwise comply with the provisions of this title. The plan shall be placed into operation after approval by a reviewing panel consisting of the members of the judicial council of the circuit and either the chief judge of the district whose plan is being reviewed or such other active district judge of that district as the chief judge of the district may designate. The panel shall examine the plan to ascertain that it complies with the provisions of this title. If the reviewing panel finds that the plan does not comply, the panel shall state the particulars in which the plan fails to comply and direct the district court to

present within a reasonable time an alternative plan remedying the defect or defects. Separate plans may be adopted for each division or combination of divisions within a judicial district. The district court may modify a plan at any time and it shall modify the plan when so directed by the reviewing panel. The district court shall promptly notify the panel, the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, and the Attorney General of the United States, of the initial adoption and future modifications of the plan by filing copies therewith. Modifications of the plan made at the instance of the district court shall become effective after approval by the panel. Each district court shall submit a report on the jury selection process within its jurisdiction to the Administrative Office of the United States Courts in such form and at such times as the Judicial Conference of the United States may specify. The Judicial Conference of the United States may, from time to time, adopt rules and regulations governing the provisions and the operation of the plans formulated under this title.

(b) Among other things, such plan shall—

(1) either establish a jury commission, or authorize the clerk of the court, to manage the jury selection process. If the plan establishes a jury commission, the district court shall appoint one citizen to serve with the clerk of the court as the jury commission: *Provided, however,* That the plan for the District of Columbia may establish a jury commission consisting of three citizens. The citizen jury commissioner shall not belong to the same political party as the clerk serving with him. The clerk or the jury commission, as the case may be, shall act under the supervision and control of the chief judge of the district court or such other judge of the district court as the plan may provide. Each jury commissioner shall, during his tenure in office, reside in the judicial district or division for which he is appointed. Each citizen jury commissioner shall receive compensation to be fixed by the district court plan at a rate not to exceed $50 per day for each day necessarily employed in the performance of his duties, plus reimbursement for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by him in the performance of such duties. The Judicial Conference of the United States may establish standards for allowance of travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred by jury commissioners.

(2) specify whether the names of prospective jurors shall be selected from the voter registration lists or the lists of actual voters of the political subdivisions within the district or divi-

sion. The plan shall prescribe some other source or sources of names in addition to voter lists where necessary to foster the policy and protect the rights secured by sections 1861 and 1862 of this title. The plan for the District of Columbia may require the names of prospective jurors to be selected from the city directory rather than from voter lists. The plans for the districts of Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone may prescribe some other source or sources of names of prospective jurors in lieu of voter lists, the use of which shall be consistent with the policies declared and rights secured by sections 1861 and 1862 of this title.

(3) specify detailed procedures to be followed by the jury commission or clerk in selecting names from the sources specified in paragraph (2) of this subsection. These procedures shall be designed to ensure the random selection of a fair cross section of the persons residing in the community in the district or division wherein the court convenes. They shall ensure that names of persons residing in each of the counties, parishes, or similar political subdivisions within the judicial district or division are placed in a master jury wheel; and shall ensure that each county, parish, or similar political subdivision within the district or division is substantially proportionally represented in the master jury wheel for that judicial district, division, or combination of divisions. For the purposes of determining proportional representation in the master jury wheel, either the number of actual voters at the last general election in each county, parish, or similar political subdivision, or the number of registered voters if registration of voters is uniformly required throughout the district or division, may be used.

(4) provide for a master jury wheel (or a device similar in purpose and function) into which the names of those randomly selected shall be placed. The plan shall fix a minimum number of names to be placed initially in the master jury wheel, which shall be at least one-half of 1 per centum of the total number of persons on the lists used as a source of names for the district or division; but if this number of names is believed to be cumbersome and unnecessary, the plan may fix a smaller number of names to be placed in the master wheel, but in no event less than one thousand. The chief judge of the district court, or such other district court judge as the plan may provide, may

order additional names to be placed in the master jury wheel from time to time as necessary. The plan shall provide for periodic emptying and refilling of the master jury wheel at specified times, the interval for which shall not exceed four years.

(5) specify those groups of persons or occupational classes whose members shall, on individual request therefor, be excused from jury service. Such groups or classes shall be excused only if the district court finds, and the plan states, that jury service by such class or group would entail undue hardship or extreme inconvenience to the members thereof, and excuse of members thereof would not be inconsistent with sections 1861 and 1862 of this title.

(6) specify those groups of persons or occupational classes whose members shall be barred from jury service on the ground that they are exempt. Such groups or classes shall be exempt only if the district court finds, and the plan states, that their exemption is in the public interest and would not be inconsistent with sections 1861 and 1862 of this title. The plan shall provide for exemption of the following persons: (i) members in active service in the Armed Forces of the United States; (ii) members of the fire or police departments of any State, district, territory, possession, or subdivision thereof; (iii) public officers in the executive, legislative, or judicial branches of the Government of the United States, or any State, district, territory, or possession or subdivision thereof, who are actively engaged in the performance of official duties.

(7) fix the time when the names drawn from the qualified jury wheel shall be disclosed to parties and to the public. If the plan permits these names to be made public, it may nevertheless permit the chief judge of the district court, or such other district court judge as the plan may provide, to keep these names confidential in any case where the interests of justice so require.

(8) specify the procedures to be followed by the clerk or jury commission in assigning persons whose names have been drawn from the qualified jury wheel to grand and petit jury panels.

(c) The initial plan shall be devised by each district court and transmitted to the reviewing panel specified in subsection (a) of this section within one hundred and twenty days of the date of enactment of the Jury Selection and Service Act of 1968. The

panel shall approve or direct the modification of each plan so submitted within sixty days thereafter. Each plan or modification made at the direction of the panel shall become effective after approval at such time thereafter as the panel directs, in no event to exceed ninety days from the date of approval. Modifications made at the instance of the district court under subsection (a) of this section shall be effective at such time thereafter as the panel directs, in no event to exceed ninety days from the date of modification.

(d) State, local, and Federal officials having custody, possession, or control of voter registration lists, lists of actual voters, or other appropriate records shall make such lists and records available to the jury commission or clerks for inspection, reproduction, and copying at all reasonable times as the commission or clerk may deem necessary and proper for the performance of duties under this title. The district courts shall have jurisdiction upon application by the Attorney General of the United States to compel compliance with this subsection by appropriate process.

(As amended Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 54; Apr. 6, 1972, Pub.L. 92-269, § 2, 86 Stat. 117; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub.L. 95-572, § 2(a), 92 Stat. 2453.)

§ 1864. Drawing of names from the master jury wheel; completion of juror qualification form

(a) From time to time as directed by the district court, the clerk or a district judge shall publicly draw at random from the master jury wheel the names of as many persons as may be required for jury service. The clerk or jury commission shall prepare an alphabetical list of the names drawn, which list shall not be disclosed to any person except pursuant to the district court plan and to sections 1867 and 1868 of this title. The clerk or jury commission shall mail to every person whose name is drawn from the master wheel a juror qualification form accompanied by instructions to fill out and return the form, duly signed and sworn, to the clerk or jury commission by mail within ten days. If the person is unable to fill out the form, another shall do it for him, and shall indicate that he has done so and the reason therefor. In any case in which it appears that there is an omission, ambiguity, or error in a form, the clerk or jury commission shall return the form with instructions to the

person to make such additions or corrections as may be necessary and to return the form to the clerk or jury commission within ten days. Any person who fails to return a completed juror qualification form as instructed may be summoned by the clerk or jury commission forthwith to appear before the clerk or jury commission to fill out a juror qualification form. A person summoned to appear because of failure to return a juror qualification form as instructed who personally appears and executes a juror qualification form before the clerk or jury commission may, at the discretion of the district court, except where his prior failure to execute and mail such form was willful, be entitled to receive for such appearance the same fees and travel allowances paid to jurors under section 1871 of this title. At the time of his appearance for jury service, any person may be required to fill out another juror qualification form in the presence of the jury commission or the clerk or the court, at which time, in such cases as it appears warranted, the person may be questioned, but only with regard to his responses to questions contained on the form. Any information thus acquired by the clerk or jury commission may be noted on the juror qualification form and transmitted to the chief judge or such district court judge as the plan may provide.

(b) Any person summoned pursuant to subsection (a) of this section who fails to appear as directed shall be ordered by the district court forthwith to appear and show cause for his failure to comply with the summons. Any person who fails to appear pursuant to such order or who fails to show good cause for noncompliance with the summons may be fined not more that $100 or imprisoned not more than three days, or both. Any person who willfully misrepresents a material fact on a juror qualification form for the purpose of avoiding or securing service as a juror may be fined not more than $100 or imprisoned not more than three days, or both.

(As amended Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 57.)

§ 1865. Qualifications for jury service

(a) The chief judge of the district court, or such other district court judge as the plan may provide, on his initiative or upon recommendation of the clerk or jury commission, shall determine solely on the basis of information provided on the juror qualification form and other competent evidence whether a person is unqualified for, or exempt, or to be excused from jury service. The clerk shall enter such determination in the space provided on the juror qualification form and the alphabetical list of names drawn from the master jury wheel. If a person did not appear in response to a summons, such fact shall be noted on said list.

(b) In making such determination the chief judge of the district court, or such other district court judge as the plan may provide, shall deem any person qualified to serve on grand and petit juries in the district court unless he—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States eighteen years old who has resided for a period of one year within the judicial district;

(2) is unable to read, write, and understand the English language with a degree of proficiency sufficient to fill out satisfactorily the juror qualification form;

(3) is unable to speak the English language;

(4) is incapable, by reason of mental or physical infirmity, to render satisfactory jury service; or

(5) has a charge pending against him for the commission of, or has been convicted in a State or Federal court of record of, a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year and his civil rights have not been restored.

(As amended Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 58; Apr. 6, 1972, Pub.L. 92-269, § 1, 86 Stat. 117; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub.L. 95-572, § 3(a), 92 Stat. 2453.)

§ 1866. Selection and summoning of jury panels

(a) The jury commission, or in the absence thereof the clerk, shall maintain a qualified jury wheel and shall place in such wheel names of all persons drawn from the master jury wheel who are determined to be qualified as jurors and not exempt or excused pursuant to the district court plan. From time to time, the jury commission or the clerk shall publicly draw at random from the qualified jury wheel such number of names of persons as may be

required for assignment to grand and petit jury panels. The jury commission or the clerk shall prepare a separate list of names of persons assigned to each grand and petit jury panel.

(b) When the court orders a grand or petit jury to be drawn, the clerk or jury commission or their duly designated deputies shall issue summonses for the required number of jurors.

Each person drawn for jury service may be served personally, or by registered, certified, or first-class mail addressed to such person at his usual residence or business address.

If such service is made personally, the summons shall be delivered by the clerk or the jury commission or their duly designated deputies to the marshal who shall make such service.

If such service is made by mail, the summons may be served by the marshal or by the clerk, the jury commission or their duly designated deputies, who shall make affidavit of service and shall attach thereto any receipt from the addressee for a registered or certified summons.

(c) Except as provided in section 1865 of this title or in any jury selection plan provision adopted pursuant to paragraph (5) or (6) of section 1863(b) of this title, no person or class of persons shall be disqualified, excluded, excused, or exempt from service as jurors: *Provided*, That any person summoned for jury service may be (1) excused by the court, upon a showing of undue hardship or extreme inconvenience, for such period as the court deems necessary, at the conclusion of which such person shall be summoned again for jury service under subsections (b) and (c) of this section, or (2) excluded by the court on the ground that such person may be unable to render impartial jury service or that his service as a juror would be likely to disrupt the proceedings, or (3) excluded upon peremptory challenge as provided by law, or (4) excluded pursuant to the procedure specified by law upon a challenge by any party for good cause shown, or (5) excluded upon determination by the court that his service as a juror would be likely to threaten the secrecy of the proceedings, or otherwise adversely affect the integrity of jury deliberations. No person shall be excluded under clause (5) of this subsection unless the judge, in open court, determines that such is warranted and that exclusion of the person will not

be inconsistent with sections 1861 and 1862 of this title. The number of persons excluded under clause (5) of this subsection shall not exceed one per centum of the number of persons who return executed jury qualification forms during the period, specified in the plan, between two consecutive fillings of the master jury wheel. The names of persons excluded under clause (5) of this subsection, together with detailed explanations for the exclusions, shall be forwarded immediately to the judicial council of the circuit, which shall have the power to make any appropriate order, prospective or retroactive, to redress any misapplication of clause (5) of this subsection, but otherwise exclusions effectuated under such clause shall not be subject to challenge under the provisions of this title. Any person excluded from a particular jury under clause (2), (3), or (4) of this subsection shall be eligible to sit on another jury if the basis for his initial exclusion would not be relevant to his ability to serve on such other jury.

(d) Whenever a person is disqualified, excused, exempt, or excluded from jury service, the jury commission or clerk shall note in the space provided on his juror qualification form or on the juror's card drawn from the qualified jury wheel the specific reason therefor.

(e) In any two-year period, no person shall be required to (1) serve or attend court for prospective service as a petit juror for a total of more than thirty days, except when necessary to complete service in a particular case, or (2) serve on more than one grand jury, or (3) serve as both a grand and petit juror.

(f) When there is an unanticipated shortage of available petit jurors drawn from the qualified jury wheel, the court may require the marshal to summon a sufficient number of petit jurors selected at random from the voter registration lists, lists of actual voters, or other lists specified in the plan, in a manner ordered by the court consistent with sections 1861 and 1862 of this title.

(g) Any person summoned for jury service who fails to appear as directed shall be ordered by the district court to appear forthwith and show cause for his failure to comply with the summons. Any person who fails to show good cause for noncompliance with a summons may be fined not more than $100 or imprisoned not more than three days, or both.

(As amended May 24, 1949, c. 139, § 96, 63 Stat. 108; Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 58; Dec. 11, 1970, Pub.L. 91-543, 84 Stat. 1408; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub.L. 95-572, § 2(b), 92 Stat. 2453; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub.L. 97-463, § 2, 96 Stat. 2531.)

§ 1867. Challenging compliance with selection procedures

(a) In criminal cases, before the voir dire examination begins, or within seven days after the defendant discovered or could have discovered, by the exercise of diligence, the grounds therefor, whichever is earlier, the defendant may move to dismiss the indictment or stay the proceedings against him on the ground of substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting the grand or petit jury.

(b) In criminal cases, before the voir dire examination begins, or within seven days after the Attorney General of the United States discovered or could have discovered, by the exercise of diligence, the grounds therefor, whichever is earlier, the Attorney General may move to dismiss the indictment or stay the proceedings on the ground of substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting the grand or petit jury.

(c) In civil cases, before the voir dire examination begins, or within seven days after the party discovered or could have discovered, by the exercise of diligence, the grounds therefor, whichever is earlier, any party may move to stay the proceedings on the ground of substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting the petit jury.

(d) Upon motion filed under subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section, containing a sworn statement of facts which, if true, would constitute a substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title, the moving party shall be entitled to present in support of such motion the testimony of the jury commission or clerk, if available, any relevant records and papers not public or otherwise available used by the jury commissioner or clerk, and any other relevant evidence. If the court determines that there has been a substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting a grand jury, the court shall stay the proceedings pending the selection of a grand jury in conformity with this title or dismiss the indictment, whichever is appropriate. If the court determines that there has been a substantial failure to comply with the provisions of this title in selecting the petit jury, the court shall stay the proceedings pending the selection of a petit jury in conformity with this title.

(e) The procedures prescribed by this section shall be the exclusive means by which a person accused of a Federal crime, the Attorney General of the United States or a party in a civil case may chal-

lenge any jury on the ground that such jury was not selected in conformity with the provisions of this title. Nothing in this section shall preclude any person or the United States from pursuing any other remedy, civil or criminal, which may be available for the vindication or enforcement of any law prohibiting discrimination on account of race, color, religion, sex, national origin or economic status in the selection of persons for service on grand or petit juries.

(f) The contents of records or papers used by the jury commission or clerk in connection with the jury selection process shall not be disclosed, except pursuant to the district court plan or as may be necessary in the preparation or presentation of a motion under subsection (a), (b), or (c) of this section, until after the master jury wheel has been emptied and refilled pursuant to section 1863(b)(4) of this title and all persons selected to serve as jurors before the master wheel was emptied have completed such service. The parties in a case shall be allowed to inspect, reproduce, and copy such records or papers at all reasonable times during the preparation and pendency of such a motion. Any person who discloses the contents of any record or paper in violation of this subsection may be fined not more than $1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

(As amended Sept. 2, 1957, Pub.L. 85-259, 71 Stat. 583; Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 59.)

§ 1868. Maintenance and inspection of records

After the master jury wheel is emptied and refilled pursuant to section 1863(b)(4) of this title, and after all persons selected to serve as jurors before the master wheel was emptied have completed such service, all records and papers compiled and maintained by the jury commission or clerk before the master wheel was emptied shall be preserved in the custody of the clerk for four years or for such longer period as may be ordered by a court, and shall be available for public inspection for the purpose of determining the validity of the selection of any jury.

(As amended Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 60.)

§ 1869. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter—

(a) "clerk" and "clerk of the court" shall mean the clerk of the district court of the United States or any authorized deputy clerk;

(b) "chief judge" shall mean the chief judge of any district court of the United States;

(c) "voter registration lists" shall mean the official records maintained by State or local election officials of persons registered to vote in either the most recent State or the most recent Federal general election, or, in the case of a State or political subdivision thereof that does not require registration as a prerequisite to voting, other official lists of persons qualified to vote in such election. The term shall also include the list of eligible voters maintained by any Federal examiner pursuant to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 where the names on such list have not been included on the official registration lists or other official lists maintained by the appropriate State or local officials. With respect to the districts of Guam and the Virgin Islands, "voter registration lists" shall mean the official records maintained by territorial election officials of persons registered to vote in the most recent territorial general election;

(d) "lists of actual voters" shall mean the official lists of persons actually voting in either the most recent State or the most recent Federal general election;

(e) "division" shall mean: (1) one or more statutory divisions of a judicial district; or (2) in statutory divisions that contain more than one place of holding court, or in judicial districts where there are no statutory divisions, such counties, parishes, or similar political subdivisions surrounding the places where court is held as the district court plan shall determine: *Provided*, That each county, parish, or similar political subdivision shall be included in some such division;

(f) "district court of the United States", "district court", and "court" shall mean courts constituted under chapter 5 of title 28, United States Code, section 22 of the Organic Act of Guam, as amended (64 Stat. 389; 48 U.S.C. 1424), section 21 of the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands (68 Stat. 506; 48 U.S.C. 1611), and section 1 of title 3, Canal Zone Code; except that for purposes

of sections 1861, 1862, 1866(c), 1866(d), and 1867 of this chapter such terms shall include the Superior Court of the District of Columbia;

(g) "jury wheel" shall include any device or system similar in purpose or function, such as a properly programmed electronic data processing system or device;

(h) "juror qualification form" shall mean a form prescribed by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts and approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States, which shall elicit the name, address, age, race, occupation, education, length of residence within the judicial district, distance from residence to place of holding court, prior jury service, and citizenship of a potential juror, and whether he should be excused or exempted from jury service, has any physical or mental infirmity impairing his capacity to serve as juror, is able to read, write, speak, and understand the English language, has pending against him any charge for the commission of a State or Federal criminal offense punishable by imprisonment for more than one year, or has been convicted in any State or Federal court of record of a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year and has not had his civil rights restored. The form shall request, but not require, any other information not inconsistent with the provisions of this title and required by the district court plan in the interests of the sound administration of justice. The form shall also elicit the sworn statement that his responses are true to the best of his knowledge. Notarization shall not be required. The form shall contain words clearly informing the person that the furnishing of any information with respect to his religion, national origin, or economic status is not a prerequisite to his qualification for jury service, that such information need not be furnished if the person finds it objectionable to do so, and that information concerning race is required solely to enforce nondiscrimination in jury selection and has no bearing on an individual's qualification for jury service.

(i) "public officer" shall mean a person who is either elected to public office or who is directly appointed by a person elected to public office;

(j) "undue hardship or extreme inconvenience", as a basis for excuse from immediate jury service under section 1866(c)(1) of this chapter, shall mean great distance, either in miles or travel-time, from the place of holding court, grave illness in the family or any other emergency which outweighs in immediacy and urgency the obligation to serve as a juror when summoned, or any other factor which the court determines to constitute an undue hardship or to create an extreme inconvenience to the juror; and in addition, in situations where it is anticipated that a trial or grand jury proceeding may require more than thirty days of service, the court may consider, as a further basis for temporary excuse, severe economic hardship to an employer which would result from the absence of a key employee during the period of such service;

(k) "publicly draw", as referred to in sections 1864 and 1866 of this chapter, shall mean a drawing which is conducted within the district after reasonable public notice and which is open to the public at large under the supervision of the clerk or jury commission, except that when a drawing is made by means of electronic data processing, "publicly draw" shall mean a drawing which is conducted at a data processing center located in or out of the district, after reasonable public notice given in the district for which juror names are being drawn, and which is open to the public at large under such supervision of the clerk or jury commission as the Judicial Conference of the United States shall by regulation require; and

(*l*) "jury summons" shall mean a summons issued by a clerk of court, jury commission, or their duly designated deputies, containing either a preprinted or stamped seal of court, and containing the name of the issuing clerk imprinted in preprinted, type, or facsimile manner on the summons or the envelopes transmitting the summons.

(As amended Oct. 16, 1963, Pub.L. 88-139, § 2, 77 Stat. 248; Mar. 27, 1968, Pub.L. 90-274, § 101, 82 Stat. 61; July 29, 1970, Pub.L. 91-358, Title I, § 172(b), 84 Stat. 590; Sept. 29, 1972, Pub.L. 92-437, § 1, 86 Stat. 740; Nov. 2, 1978, Pub.L. 95-572, §§ 3(b), 4, 92 Stat. 2453.)

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No. 85-1961 (3)

In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1986

EUGENE LESLIE, PETITIONER

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES

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QUESTION PRESENTED

Whether the district court, before this Court's decision in *Batson* v. *Kentucky*, No. 84-6263 (Apr. 30, 1986), should have required the prosecutor to explain his reasons for striking black veniremen from the jury panel.

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ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

BRIEF FOR THE UNITED STATES

OPINIONS BELOW

The majority and dissenting opinions of the en banc court of appeals (Pet. App. B1-B62) are reported at 783 F.2d 541. The majority and dissenting opinions of the panel of the court of appeals (Pet. App. A1-A44) are reported at 759 F.2d 366.

JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals was entered on February 20, 1986. The petition for a writ of certiorari was filed on April 19, 1986. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

STATEMENT

Following a jury trial in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, petitioner was convicted of possession of cocaine with intent to distribute it, in

violation of 21 U.S.C. 841(a)(1), and of conspiracy to commit that offense, in violation of 21 U.S.C. 846. Petitioner was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment and fined $25,000 on each count, the sentences to run concurrently. A panel of the court of appeals reversed, but the en banc court of appeals affirmed by a vote of 11 to 5.

1. The evidence at trial showed that Claude Griffin and Fernando Lopez were partners in a narcotics business in New Orleans. Griffin was an operator of an air conditioning and heating shop. 2 R. 160, 194-195. In 1982, Griffin and Lopez bought cocaine in amounts varying from two to four kilograms from a distributor in Houston, Texas, through Fernando Giron (2 R. 161-163, 179, 195). They used Thomas Paul Gray as a runner to deliver money and pick up the cocaine (2 R. 88-97, 166-167; 3 R. 359-361).

Griffin sold approximately 20 to 25 kilograms of the cocaine secured through Giron and other sources to petitioner for $1800 to $2000 an ounce (2 R. 165), employing code words for cocaine in their telephone conversations (2 R. 171-188; GX 1-12). Petitioner also gave Gray between $20,000 and $25,000, which Gray used to obtain cocaine from Giron (2 R. 99-100, 169). In February 1982, after Griffin introduced Giron to petitioner, Giron delivered two kilograms of cocaine to petitioner for $106,000 (2 R. 170; 3 R. 403-405).

2. The voir dire questioning of prospective jurors at petitioner's trial is summarized in the opinion of the en banc court (Pet. App. B5-B6). During the voir dire examination, the district court excused veniremen for cause. Thereafter the parties exercised their peremptory challenges. The prosecutor removed six black persons from the jury venire. Petitioner, who is black, and his codefendant, who is white, struck ten white persons. The prosecutor also removed one black person from the panel of four called to sit as alternate jurors. *Id.* at B5-B6.

Petitioner requested a mistrial on the ground that the prosecutor had exercised his peremptory challenges exclusively against blacks and that the prosecutor's exercise of his peremptory challenges had removed all the blacks from the jury venire and the only black person from the panel of alternates. The prosecutor responded that he had not exercised his challenges on the basis of race. Although the prosecutor stated that he did not have to give a reason for his use of strikes, he offered to explain his reasons in camera (Pet. App. B6).

Petitioner contended that the district court could act even though this Court in *Swain* v. *Alabama*, 380 U.S. 202 (1965), had ruled that it was permissible in an individual case for the prosecution to strike all the blacks from the venire. Petitioner also argued that he was a black man with a good reputation in the black community and that "there is no way to communicate through peers in the community" without a single black on the jury. The district court rejected these arguments, and the trial proceeded (2 R. 4-7; see also 1 R. 186-189).

3. On appeal, a divided panel of the court of appeals reversed (Pet. App. A1-A17). The majority invoked the court's supervisory power to regulate the federal prosecutor's use of peremptory challenges. Noting that the district court had not accepted the prosecutor's offer to explain his strikes, the court of appeals remanded the case for a hearing to determine whether the prosecutor had exercised his challenges for impermissible, racially discriminatory reasons.

On rehearing, the en banc court of appeals affirmed the conviction. The 11-judge majority framed the issue as "whether the prosecution may take race or similar group characteristics into account when it exercises a peremptory challenge for the sole purpose of procuring a jury least likely to be partial to the defense, in light of the discrete facts of

now before the Court in *Brown* v. *United States*, cert. granted, No. 85-5731 (June 2, 1986). Accordingly, it is appropriate to hold this petition pending a decision in *Brown*. If *Batson* is determined not to be retroactive, the petition should then be denied.

If *Batson* is determined to be retroactive, the petition should be granted, the judgment vacated, and the case remanded to the court of appeals for further consideration. The court of appeals should determine on remand whether petitioner adequately preserved a constitutional claim (see note 1, *supra*) and, if not, whether *Batson* affects the analysis of the federal courts' supervisory powers.

CONCLUSION

The petition for a writ of certiorari should be held pending this Court's decision in *Brown* v. *United States*, No. 85-5731.

Respectfully submitted.

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JULY 1986

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